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Farm and Ranch REVIEW

JANUARY, 1955

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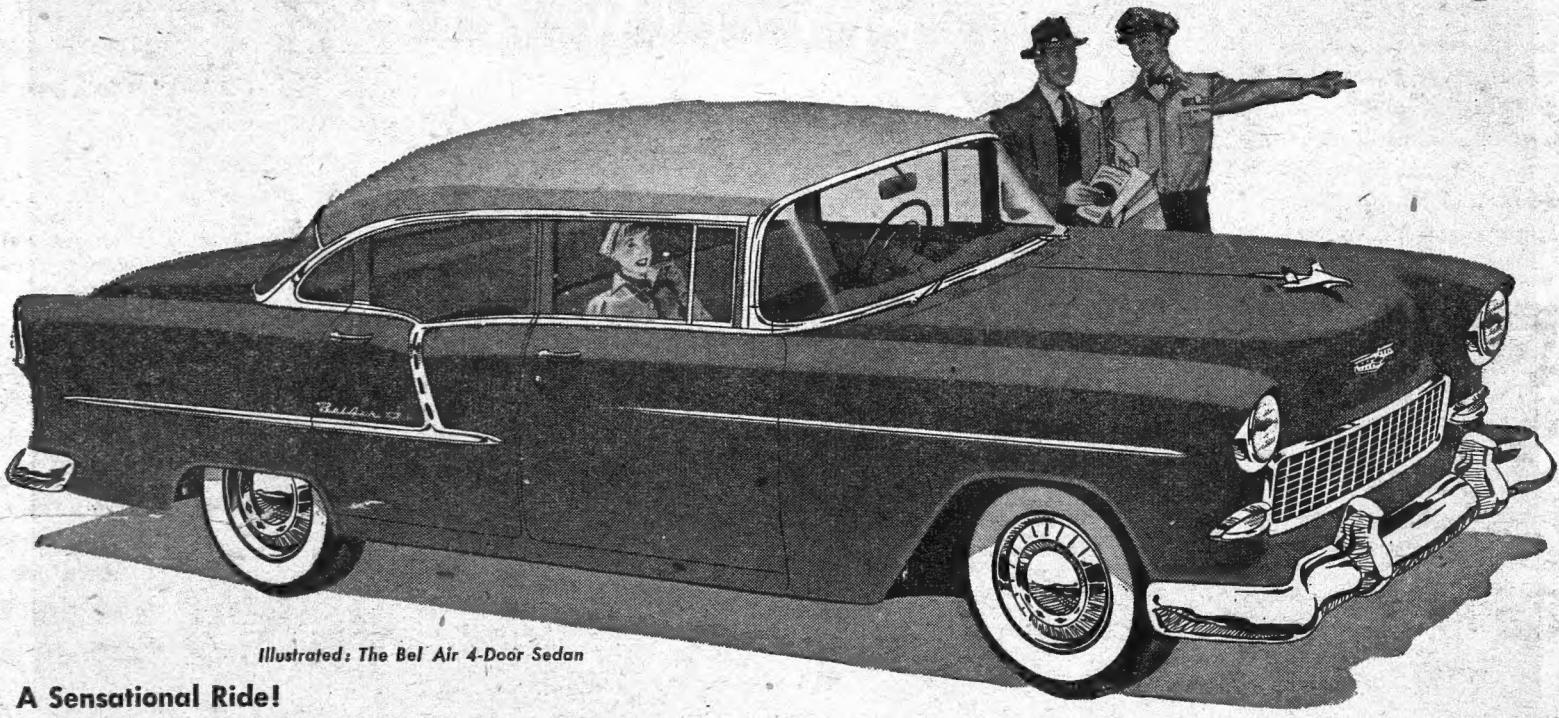
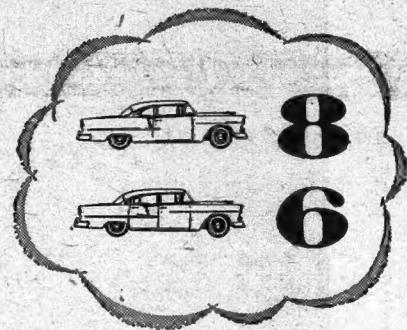
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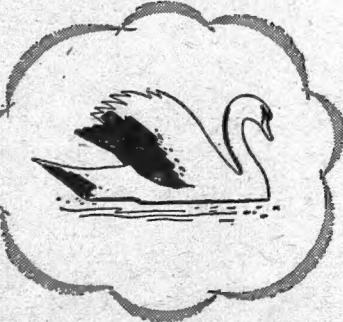
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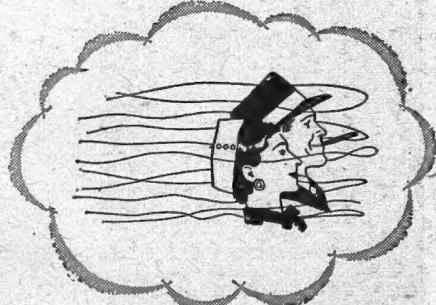
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Farm and Ranch Review

706 - 2nd Avenue, West, Calgary, Alberta

Vol. LI. Founded in 1905 by Charles W. Peterson
James H. Gray, Editor

No. 1

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Published Monthly by
Farm and Ranch Review Limited
Printed by Western Printing &
Lithographing Co. Ltd.
706 - 2nd Ave. W., Calgary, Alberta
Entered as Second-class Mail
Matter at the Post Office,
Calgary, Alberta
Member of the
Audit Bureau of Circulations.
EASTERN ADVERTISING OFFICES :
Room 410, 86 Bloor Street West,
Toronto 5, Ont.
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The Farm and Ranch Editorial Page...

Piracy in the Cariboo and the Sloan report

IN one of the remoter reaches of the Cariboo country at the turn of this century there was a merchant who doubled as the local coroner, undertaker and magistrate. He took these official duties with great seriousness and eventually came to fancy himself as a legal wizard. Thus, when a trapper was brought before him charged with stealing a rowboat, he consulted his well-thumbed law books.

He decided that the theft of the boat constituted piracy, so when he convicted the trapper of piracy he sentenced him to be hanged, which was the penalty for piracy. There was a great to-do before the proper authorities got the matter untangled and the trapper saved from the gallows.

We were reminded of this story by Mr. Justice Sloan's off-the-cuff animadversions on the Crow's Nest Pass freight rates. His judgment on that connection has much in common with that of the Cariboo merchant-magistrate.

Judge Sloan, for those of who have forgotten, was named to conciliate the wage

dispute between the railways and their employees. At the hearings, the railways argued that they couldn't meet the employees' demands because of insufficient revenue. They blamed that insufficiency in part on the Crow's Nest Pass rates. Judge Sloan, taking the railway's word for it, suggested that the national treasury should subsidize the railways so they could turn the money over to their employees.

Judge Sloan was not asked to consider the Crow's Nest Pass rates. He conducted no inquiry into these rates. No expert witnesses were called who could have set him right about the rates. He acted like the judge who, having heard the witnesses for the prosecution decided the accused was guilty and wouldn't listen to any defense. Surely this was a performance that in itself will tend to bring the judiciary into contempt.

His judgment drew the unanimous condemnation of just about every newspaper in the Prairie Provinces. Well it might, for he may well have set some very reactionary

forces in motion in this country. We don't propose to argue here over the rates themselves. We do, however, propose to point out that whenever the railways get hard up they start making noises about the Crow's Nest Pass rates. They say that these rates were established at a level which might have been okay in 1897 but which are ruinous today.

Yet it is a strange coincidence that the railways always start using red ink at times when the movement of Prairie grain declines. As long as they can work to capacity moving our grain to market, they have no problem. But let the grain movement slacken, as it did last year, and the whole railway system goes into the red. Surely that demonstrates two facts beyond possible doubt. The first is that moving grain by rail is a highly profitable piece of business for the railways. The second is that the railways depend upon traffic on the prairies for their profits.

Yet this judge has the effrontery to suggest that the railway employees are subsidizing the farmers because of the Crow's Nest Pass rates. In addition, he seems to blame the Crow's Nest Pass rates for the fact that 20,000 railway employees have been laid off. To give his the modicum of credit he has earned, he does point out that increasing freight rates is no solution of the problem because increased wages have absorbed the increases to date and the traffic can't stand any more.

Then there is this point: — but why go on? To argue with a judgment like that one is to dignify it with a respect it does not deserve. As we say, it sure reminds us of the Cariboo magistrate who turned a rowboat into piracy!

truths, Mr. Heeney did an excellent job for Canada.

Furthermore, it was good to see a Canadian in a high place doing some public worrying about the size of the American investment in Canada. In plain truth, Mr. Heeney ought to be in the Bank of Canada or the Department of Finance, where his keen mind would be put to very good use. It's been the fashion, in those ivory towers, to ignore the problem of American penetration into the Canadian economy.

He should know, however, that the problem may be far more serious than he understands it to be. For one thing, the statistics on which he relies are incomplete and hence inaccurate. The \$3.5 billions increase in American investment in Canada is only what has come into Canada since the war. Nobody knows how much pre-war American investment in Canada has grown since the war, for the simple reason that there has been no thorough study of American capital growth in Canada. Thus much of the talking that Mr. Graham Towers did on this subject was through his well known hat.

We'll find out about that growth one of these days when the flow of American capital into Canada stops and the outflow begins. Meanwhile, it's good to have a Canadian ambassador going to the American people and telling them our story. If that can be done often enough, to enough people, perhaps the markets for our agricultural products below the line will not be impaired by restrictions imposed because of public apathy on one hand and the drive of special interests on the other.

This hired man does a fine job for Canada

FOR one fellow who is making a great attempt to do a job the way it should be done, we'd like to direct the attention of prairie farmers to the performance of Mr. Arnold Heeney, the Canadian ambassador in Washington.

One of the weaknesses of inter-governmental relations is that communications are at all the wrong levels. By practice a Canadian ambassador to Washington has his contacts and discussions with appropriate officials of the American State Department. When something affecting our interest arises the ambassador trots around to the State Department and complains.

That is usually the end of the matter because, in the United States, policy is very often made at the local ward level. It is the pressures that arise from the copper mining states that generate a crusade for higher copper tariffs. It is the pressures from the cornbelt that cause embargoes to be placed against Canadian grain imports. As Farm and Ranch readers know, we've argued that the Canadian case should be taken to the American people. Mr. Heeney is doing that, within the limits that protocol and form and diplomatic courtesy will permit.

A few weeks ago he went before an American farm convention and told American farmers about the market they enjoyed in Canada. Last month he was the guest speaker at the convention of the Investment

Bankers' Association. He told the American bankers a lot of things it is important for them to know about Canada. The most important of all is that if the American investors are going to earn and receive any profits from their Canadian investments, Canadian exports to the U.S. must not only be maintained but increased.

Mr. Heeney told how American investment in Canada has increased by more than \$3 billion since the end of the war. He estimated that American investment in Canada now exceeds \$8.6 billions. In order to pay dividends on this increased investment, Canada must increase her exports to the U.S. In short we have to earn more American dollars all the time in order to service the American debt.

Having said that, our ambassador went on to point out that it was a disservice to the American investment in Canada for the Americans to start putting restrictions against Canadian exports. So far, only farm products have been affected but other things are now at the discussion stage.

The value of this sort of job is beyond calculation. Unlike their Canadian brothers, American bankers are not afraid to stand up and be counted politically. They are in politics at the local, state and national level. Thus they are in a position to influence national policy. By telling them a few home

Farm and Ranch Editorials

We need less research and a lot more extension

FOR sheer guff, we think a recent Saskatchewan speech by a fellow agricultural editor touched an all-time high. The theme of this speech was that the farmers are really to blame for most of the ills that afflict them because they haven't been either generous enough or positive enough in their approach to scientific research.

He suggested that the farmers should donate a small fraction of a cent per bushel of grain produced to finance research. He said this would be fairly cheap insurance in comparison with the loss of \$50,000,000 suffered by Saskatchewan farmers through leaf rust damage this year.

The fact is, of course, that millions of dollars are spent annually on research, particularly by the federal government. We are loaded to the hilt with agricultural research. If we aren't getting results we want it isn't because of lack of money. Never before have the research scientists had it so good. What we need isn't more research but better research. If, as alleged, our universities lack research facilities, the solution is simple. Let the Dominion cut its Science Service branch down to size and turn the surplus manpower, equipment and money over to the universities!

Basically, there is nothing to recommend the proposal to have farmers tax themselves to finance research. The suggestion that by doing so they can "insure" themselves against such things as rust and saw flies is sheer nonsense. True, we have now got a rust resistant wheat, thanks to our scientists. But the race between rust and rust-resistant wheat is never ended. After strain 15-B we'll have other more virulent forms of rust that will have to be met when they arrive.

Despite all the millions, even billions that have been spent on scientific agricultural research around the world, we are as far from a disease-free and trouble-free agriculture as we ever were. Indeed it seems to us at times as if we are losing the struggle between man and the microbes. It's true, as our friend points out, that farming practice often lags far behind scientific research. Too many farmers ignore the experimental results that are available to him.

Well, whose fault is that? The farmers, or the agricultural scientists who regard "extension" — the taking of information to the producers — as beneath their dignity? We often feel that if a lot of our cloistered researchers would go out into the country and study the farmers' problems on his farm, they'd understand better why it just isn't practical to do some things the way scientists think they should be done. That the farmers are not inherently resistant to advice is demonstrated by the success that has met the extension work of officials who can and do talk the farmers' language.

Instead of more research, we need greater effort to catch the farmers up on what research has already accomplished. Indeed, we often wonder whether the best course would be to temporarily shut down the research and send the researchers out

to tell their story to the farmers. Maybe it wouldn't do the farmers much good, but we're convinced it would be a very good thing for the researchers.

The feet draggers in the C. F. A.

THERE is a good deal of bewilderment among Prairie Farmers as to why they have to have two organizations to serve them. There is the Canadian Federation of Agriculture. On top of it the Farmers' Unions are rapidly expanding into a national organization. All this is just another example of nature's abhorrence of a vacuum. Because the Canadian Federation of Agriculture has outgrown its usefulness, it was only natural that a new organization would arise to take over its functions.

How badly the Federation has gone to seed may be illustrated by its performance on the question of promoting the sale of beef. The beef producers of the West, along with the meat packers, decided a couple of years ago to do something to encourage consumers to buy and eat the cheaper cuts of beef. The Western section of the Canadian Council of Beef Producers suggested

that producers contribute five cents a carcass to pay for this promotional campaign.

Representatives of the council appeared before every farm organization meeting they could find and asked for support of the idea. Everywhere the idea caught on and was endorsed. It was, that is, until it got before the Federation of Agriculture. Its leaders took exception to certain details of the plan and while they have not formally rejected it, they sit on the proposals like a flock of chickens on crockery eggs.

Let's look at this proposal. It would mean that a farmer who marketed 10 steers a year would pay a total of 50 cents into a pot to help develop a better market and consumer acceptance for his meat. Surely that is as little as he could pay for anything. But if each steer marketed in Canada was taxed a nickel, the beef council would have a big enough budget to work with and accomplish something.

What's wrong with this idea, anyway? Certainly the financial cost to the farmers is negligible. It is potentially an effective way of increasing domestic meat consumption. Domestic consumers are still our best meat consumers. Why in the name of common sense should the leaders of the Federation drag their feet and prevent the adoption of the proposal? Our own suspicion is because it is an idea that was **not** hatched in the Federation national office.

It's time the Federation statemen realized that the function of leaders is to provide leadership. If they are too busy making speeches to do so, then the least they can do is get out of the road of people who are prepared to do the job for them. The unhappy thing about this episode is that until the Federation acts, nothing will come of the five-cent proposal.

Lets try to do more business

A CHINESE groceryman in Calgary may have an idea that could be put to use by Prairie farmers. This fellow doesn't have a big store; but he sure has his shelves loaded down with groceries. He keeps all his stock right out in the open so his customers can see it. He was asked whether he wasn't stocked pretty heavy with business being quiet. He said, no, he figured that when business was quiet you had to work harder and do more business in order to make ends meet.

Perhaps that is the answer for some farmers, to do more things, more different things, in order to raise their cash income. Indeed, many are doing just that. In southern Alberta this fall the balers followed the combines through the oats and barley fields and the straw was picked up and baled for feed.

Perhaps it isn't the best feed in the world. Perhaps the cattle would prefer alfalfa hay. But if the straw is chopped they'll eat it. Indeed according to American experiments, there's an easier way of getting it fed than chopping it. That is to spray it with molasses. One suggestion is to dilute a gallon of molasses with three gallons of water and spray the stuff onto the roughage. They really go for that.

Then there is this business of having pigs live off what the cattle waste. In Iowa and Illinois, they figure that one hog can be raised off the leaving of two and a half steers. All right, so maybe there isn't much

money in pigs at these prices. But if a man has 25 or 30 steers on feed, what money he gets from 10 pigs that live off the steers is pretty largely found money.

All this is from the primary book on the "togetherness" of nature. Nature hates specialization and loves diversity. Look at the variety of weeds that nature raises wherever there is a bare patch of ground. In England, among the organic farmers, they insist that specializing in any sort of animal production is wrong. Land, they say, gets horse-sour or cattle-sour or sheep-sour. Don't have one species, have some of each is their advice.

Then there is this business of moving stuff around the country. We wonder whether our provincial governments couldn't whip through an order-in-council permitting the use of farm license plates on trucks hauling on the highways this winter. Most farmers are well equipped with trucks. Surely they should be permitted to put these trucks to work for them on general hauling this winter, in view of the need for bolstering farm cash income.

What we'd like to see is a little more emphasis on enabling farmers to earn some money, and a lot less on nebulous schemes of government hand-outs which can never be realized anyway. On that point we like the idea of a northern Alberta livestock co-op, which has been advertising that it will help farmers who want to buy livestock to feed this winter.

— Poems of Inspiration —

I ENCLOSE one of my well-liked poetic passages. I also hope that you will have these forthcoming articles printed separately in a volume. I'd buy it the very minute I heard it was available. Perhaps you have a selection of editorials and articles ready for publication: do get them published (this advice from one who agrees wholeheartedly with you that "the thing that is mainly wrong with our farm organizations today is the lack of a positive ethic").

As one who spent the first 28

Mrs. A. D. Elsey.

Afterwards

By THOMAS HARDY

When the Present has latched its postern behind my tremulous stay,
And the May month flaps its glad green leaves like wings,
Delicate-filmed as new-spun silk, will the neighbors say,
"He was a man who used to notice such things"?

If it be in the dusk when, like an eyelid's soundless blink,
The dewfall-hawk comes crossing the shades to alight
Upon the wind-warped upland thorn, a gazer may think,
"To him this must have been a familiar sight."

If I pass during some nocturnal blackness, mothy and warm,
When the hedgehog travels furtively over the lawn,
One may say, "He strove that such innocent creatures should come to no
harm,
But he could do little for them; and now he is gone."

If, when hearing that I have been stilled at last, they stand at the door,
Watching the full-starred heavens that winter sees,
Will this thought rise on those who will meet my face no more,
"He was one who had an eye for such mysteries?"

And will any say when my bell of quittance is heard in the gloom,
And a crossing breeze cuts a pause in its outrollings,
Till they rise again, as they were a new bell's boom,
"He hears it not now, but used to notice such things?"

I WAS very interested in Cyrano's Creed. The invitation to readers to send you their own prompted me to send you the enclosed lines, which may be connected with the Hoboes' Creed or (tramps) as they are known in England.

During a recent visit to the farm home of my sister-in-law and family on the outskirts of Bakewell in Derbyshire, England, I learned a little about the customs, ways and wiles of these nomads, who still frequent the highways and byways as they did 50 years ago.

They travel afoot from one workhouse (poorhouse) to another as evening draws nigh,

you may, if you are watchful or lucky" discover one of them carefully examining the gateposts at the entrance to the farmyard for marks made by other members of the fraternity which indicate the kind of reception they may expect. Ewe Close is only half a mile from the workhouse, but if he can sneak into one of the buildings at dusk and doss down for the night, he escapes having to work for his bed and breakfast, as he's obliged to do when he stays overnight at the workhouse.

A. H. Bowler.

Sedgewick, Alta.

The Tramp

By MABEL A. BOWLER

The Tramp as he travels the highway
With a slow and shuffling tread,
Has no thoughts of rents and collectors
To worry and trouble his head.

For his only thought is his freedom,
Possession of wealth to him,
A copper or two in his pocket
And his cup is full to the brim.

He never takes heed of the morrow,
Or where he may lay his head,
Old Mother Earth is often his berth,
Yet he, like the raven, gets fed.



Nomination for Man of The Year

FOR helping to improve his own and other communities throughout the nation . . . for benefiting his fellow-citizens in countless ways . . . this man surely deserves special honours.

He's not a famous personality. But, as the typical Canadian life insurance policyholder, he represents millions of people. And each of these people renders very useful services to his community.

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Similarly, he helps promote better health and longer life for all Canadians. Because of him, life insurance companies are able to contribute funds to vital medical research projects seeking to wipe out many dread diseases.

Moreover, he has taken steps to make sure that, if anything happens to him, his family will not need to depend on others for support. That's another service to his community.

So if you are a life insurance owner, take a bow! While you're providing security for your family and yourself, you're also helping to make Canada a better land to live in!



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THE treble tones of a small girl's voice came pulsating through the phone receiver, telling me that she had found a live muskrat out on a road.

"Where's the animal now?" I asked.

"It's in our bathtub, eating carrots," she sweetly answered, adding a choice bit of information: "Mother wants to get it out of there, as she thinks I need a bath myself!"

Many a muskrat will waddle along the country roads this

Muskrats are numerous—in bathtubs and sloughs

BY KERRY WOOD

winter, and not every human who meets them will be as solicitous of their welfare as the charming little lady who so willingly gave up her Saturday night tub. Muskrats were exceptionally abundant last autumn, their conical houses pocking the marshes in all parts of

Western Canada. Unhappily, some houses were built in shallow potholes; now that January is here and ice is thick, rats living in small ponds are apt to be in serious trouble.

The thickening ice bars the animals from aquatic plant foods, sometimes restricting the poor beasts to the scant area of the house itself. When that happens, the hungry rat gnaws a hole in the frozen vegetation of the house wall and waddles overland with an awkward, hump-backed gait to look for new quarters. During the overland trip, the dark-furred rat shows up plainly against the white snow and thus becomes an easily seen target for owls, hawks, coyotes, or man.

Even if the little animal does safely reach a larger pond, its troubles are not over. First, it must diligently search the banks to find a hidden hole that will lead it under the ice barrier. Once there, the rat certainly can't move into an already established muskrat house: the rightful owners will fiercely defend their home against any such usurper. The best that the homeless wanderer can hope for is a deserted bank hole, where it may sleep during the time the animal is not avidly scrounging the slough bottom for plant roots, drowned insects, or chasing fresh-water shrimps.

Muskrats belong to the meadow-mouse or vole family, being a large and specialized version of the plump field mice that frequently swarm over western farm fields. The animals have adapted themselves amazingly well to the watery environment, living in all parts of North America from Alaska to Mexico. Their furs are the mainstay of the wild fur trade, making up into beautiful coats that grace many a lady's back under the glamorous name of Hudson Seal.

A good rat season means prosperity for Indians and white trappers, while farmers share in this wealth by cropping the surplus of rats on sloughs and lakes within farm boundaries. The regular trapping season starts in March, but Saskatchewan farmers were granted a special permit last autumn to trap out rats settled on shallow waters to prevent waste.

Big Families

Like their cousins the voles, muskrats are prolific. The mating season begins with the spring thaw, when you'll often sight a pair of males fighting a bloody battle on the ice beside some newly opened waterhole where a lady muskrat is coyly watching. First litters are born during May, the family numbering from three to six. Young muskrats are fuzzy, dull gray little animals who have to be

come fully independent within a month. This is necessary, because the mother has started a second family. Muskrats average two to three litters per year in our part of Canada, and as many as five or six in southern climes.

So long as sloughs, lakes, and streams are available, muskrats have no trouble finding food. They are called vegetarians. The bulk of their diet consists of fleshy roots of water lilies, rushes, and arrowhead, and they dine on plentiful duckweed, shore grasses, clover leaves, and many other plants. But in addition, they eat insects that come their way, even including the fearsome, two-inch long Giant Water Bugs. Fresh-water clams or mussels are favorite fare of muskrats; they will eat fish whenever they get the chance, though rats are not fast enough swimmers to catch many fish for themselves. They gratefully accept carrion, too. Many a duck-hunter can relate how muskrats converged on a dead duck the gunner could not retrieve and dined on its flesh.

Strong House

Rats pile up a conical mass of mud and vegetation to build a house, then bore a hole from the deep water to the under side of the heap. They tunnel upwards and finally chew out a room above the water level. The moated home is safe enough before ice forms; afterwards, the frost helps make the vegetable walls a solidly sealed house that is strong enough to thwart the clawing of hungry coyotes.

There will be many watery runways near the dome-shaped house. Some of the tunnels lead to the deeper parts of the pond, while others provide channels that stretch in-shore to make more plant foods available to them. The multitude of these water canals, many over a hundred yards long and every inch dug by the rat's small claws, should convince any observer that beavers haven't a monopoly on the adjective "busy".

I have personal proof of muskrat industry. Once I built a flat-bottomed boat for a farmer friend who wanted such a craft on his slough. We trucked it out and launched it, a brand new boat and tightly built. The first day it was floating on the slough, a muskrat took a fancy to it. Even while I was sitting in the boat watching ducks, the rat climbed in and decided that the punt would make an ideal homesite. Forthwith the animal started hauling vegetation to the boat, a small mouthful at a time.

Every evening when I returned to the slough, the rat had heaped up a wheel-barrow load of vegetation at one end of the boat. I threw out the stuff before going for a paddle, but next evening, the vegetation would be back in place. The persistent rat won. At the end of the week, the animal succeeded in

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chiselling a hole through the bottom boards, scuttled the brand new boat, then filled one end of the sunken craft full of vegetation and happily established a home there. I haven't built a boat since!

Ladak still best alfalfa

MORE and more alfalfa varieties are appearing in the United States and Canada in the commercial markets each year. Just as in the case of wheat, each variety has its place in certain regions or under certain conditions and no one variety can be grown everywhere with equal success. Alfalfa is a very important crop across the entire continent. Through the years many problems have arisen in its culture, and for that reason varieties have been bred to overcome certain diseases and climatic hazards.

The best alfalfa variety to grow on the Canadian prairies on both irrigated and dry land is Ladak. It has produced more forage than any other variety in Southwestern Saskatchewan during the past 12 years. In addition, it has persisted, in a mixed stand with grass, much longer than other varieties. Similar results have been obtained at all other Experimental Institutions in the prairie provinces. Grimm is the next best variety to grow. It is quite hardy but on irrigated land, where bacterial wilt is a problem, it begins to die out after the second or third crop year. Ladak, although not especially wilt resistant persists better than Grimm.

Ranger, Buffalo and Vernal are wilt resistant varieties developed in the United States. Ranger and Buffalo have been tested in Canada for more than eight years but neither has proved to be quite hardy enough for our conditions. Vernal is a new variety and tests are underway to appraise its value under Canadian conditions.

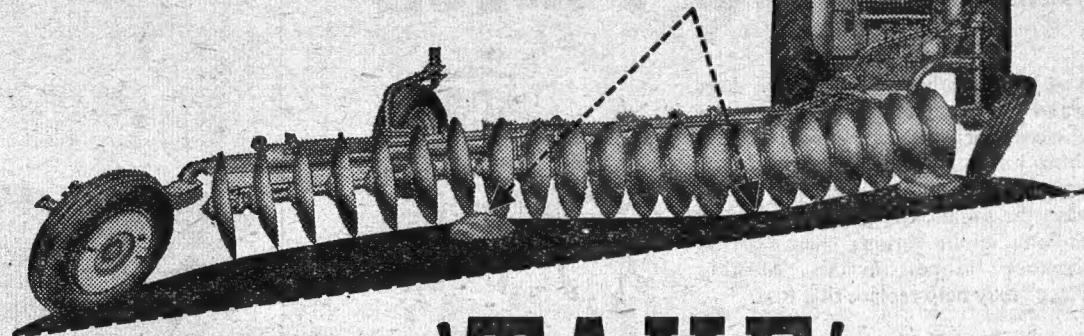
Rhizoma and Nomad, developed in British Columbia and Oregon respectively, have not been found to be superior to Ladak for hay or pasture use in the prairies. They have shown very little tendency to spread and both are less hardy and less productive than Ladak and therefore cannot be recommended.

So, for the present, grow Ladak and if seed of it is not available grow Grimm. Better varieties than these may be available in the near future from breeding projects presently conducted at Saskatoon, Swift Current and Lethbridge.

The Arctic explorer, Stefansson, lived exclusively on meats for long periods, both in the north and in New York City and was an ardent advocate of meat for health and vigor.

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'GIVE'

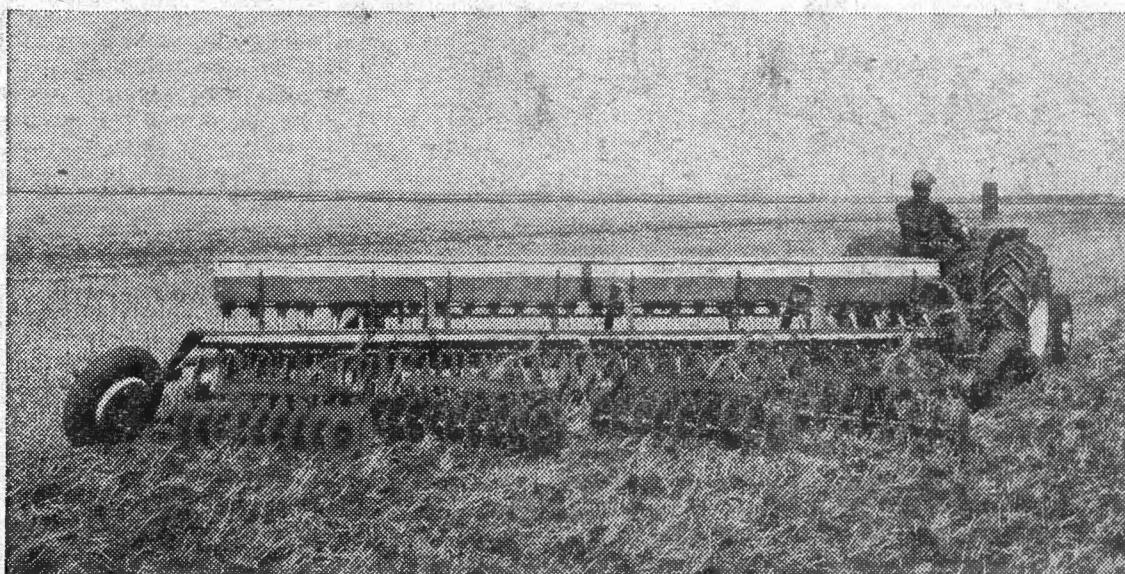


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be sure of accurate seed placement at uniform depth even in rough, hilly, uneven ground. Only with a John Deere *Surflex* Tiller or Tiller-Seeder can you hold disk breakage to the minimum because the flexible gangs ride over stones and other field obstructions. In every feature, a John Deere *Surflex* gives you greater dollar-for-dollar value.



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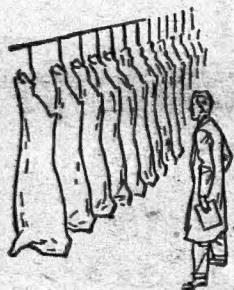
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MEETING PLACE

BACK IN the horse and buggy days people in the livestock industry were in close touch with one another. How times have changed! In growing up and becoming specialized we don't have the same close personal contact. Talking about various phases of the livestock business in this "Meeting Place" may help replace that loss.



ALL BEEF IS GOOD

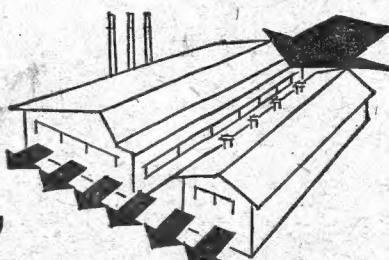


In the early days, cattle were used as work animals and to provide meat and milk for the home and the community. As wider markets developed, some farmers found their conditions more suited to beef production, others to milk. Animals of beef type were bred to produce more and better beef, and dairy cows for more efficient milk production. On many farms the cow still serves effectively in a dual capacity.

It is from all the cattle produced on farms and ranches that the packing industry gets the beef to supply the market. The different classes of cattle produce beef that varies in percentage of fat to lean, flesh to bone and other quality characteristics. Beef of all classes is highly nutritious. The bulk of beef is processed in dominion government inspected packing plants, which assures a wholesome quality product.

The differences that exist in beef lie mainly in appetite appeal and economy in use. What suits one customer does not suit another. A large part of the beef supply is required for consumer trade in the form of fresh cuts.

The balance is equally suited for consumption when it has been prepared into many appetizing forms that meet the demands of the modern housewife for economy, convenience and tastiness.



countless products.

And what a complex place a modern packing plant is! Nowadays hundreds of different forms of meat and by-products are derived from the farmer's livestock. Through research the list continues to grow. In this way markets are developed and expanded for livestock products against the intense competition of other goods for the consumer's dollar.

A FACTORY "IN REVERSE"

Henry Ford was the father of the assembly line in the automobile industry. He brought the different parts of a car to a line of men to be assembled efficiently into the finished product.

Years earlier the meat industry had introduced the same practice—but in reverse. Packing plants receive a complete unit from the rancher and farmer and take it apart on a continuous line, into



"DOC" BROWNELL'S CORNER

When cattle, hogs and sheep are ready for market they must go. The livestock producer takes a lot of risks along the way. When it is time to sell, he wants to know he will have a market for his stock

and will be paid immediately. Seems to me he has this assurance because the Canadian meat packing industry is equipped to buy and process meat animals whenever they are offered.

THE INDUSTRIAL AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF CANADIAN MEAT PACKERS

"Let's Play Tag!"



Our forgotten statesman of the frontier

By GRANT MacEWAN

AS the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan celebrate a Jubilee Anniversary in 1955, the imposing advances in 50 years of wheat, livestock and oil will be recited many times. The story about material progress will be striking, but it would be a misfortune if the records in terms of bushels and barrels were allowed to overshadow another side of the West's character, a wealth of personality riches contributed by a host of able and colorful pioneers like Kootenai Brown, Pat Burns, Robert Sinton, Walter Murray, Paddy Nolan, Frank Oliver, Bob Edwards, W. R. Motherwell, John Ware and Seager Wheeler.

For Jubilee Year, however, the very special honors should go to one who, as an obscure young lawyer, stepped off a stage coach at Fort Macleod in 1884 and hung out his shingle to tell the world that he was there to practice his profession. But this young fellow, unimpressive as he may have seemed at the moment, was exactly what the western frontier needed; he was Frederick Haultain and he was to become Premier of the North West Territories, Chief Justice of Saskatchewan, Chancellor of the University of Saskatchewan and Sir Frederick Haultain.

It was this man who, in his determined and masterful way, spear-headed the long fight for provincial rights, leading to the formation of these two provinces. Of him, the late James Clinkskill of Saskatchewan said, "He stands to this day head and shoulders over any man that has taken part in political life in the West. The fact is that he was too much the statesman and too little of the politician to suit Canadian ideas in that period."

Yet it is a rather tragic fact that many of the children in public and

high schools of the present day seem to have heard nothing about Sir Frederick Haultain. We've been so busy borrowing traditions from other lands that we've neglected many of the potential riches springing from our own soil.

Certainly there appeared to be nothing of world-shaking importance about his arrival from Eastern Canada where he had lived since boyhood years when his family came from England, and the Macleod Gazette of September 26th, 1884, carried a brief note stating that, "the coach on Friday last brought in Mr. F. W. G. Haultain who intends opening an office and practicing law". His assets at that time, apart from an education gained at Peterborough, Montreal and University of Toronto, consisted of a suit of clothes, 40 dollars in cash and plenty of ambition and courage.

The people of the South-West soon realized they had a scholar and leader in their midst. His legal services were in demand in a community where cattle rustling was far from being uncommon. For a few years he edited the Lethbridge News and often wrote editorials for the Macleod Gazette. Altogether, he was a good balance-wheel in a town which, at that time, considered itself as the "Cowboy Capital" of Canada.

He could join in fun with the cattlemen and the mounted police and he could usually keep them from going too far. He sang in a local church choir but he was not above going early to church and pasting the minister's notes together to cause a crisis at the mid-point of the sermon.

Some Fort Macleod old-timers may tell, too, of that occasion when a local minister refused to conduct funeral services because the girl whose death had occurred so recently, had a sin-

ful reputation. Haultain, who could not tolerate bigotry, appeared at the minister's door to demand a reconsideration and according to the oft-told story, carried a switch in his hand. There is no record of the discussions but it seems that he came away with the assurance that the funeral service would be conducted as usual.

Frederick Haultain was a member of the first Legislative Assembly for the North West Territories, elected in 1888. But the Assembly of that date was a relatively important body, the real ruler being Lieutenant-Governor Royal who assumed that in the spending of federal grants, he was responsible to Ottawa rather than to the Territorial Assembly.

When the Lieutenant-Governor invited Haultain and three others to act as an advisory committee on matters of finance, western people welcomed the prospect of a change. But when the advice of the new committee was not heeded, Chairman Haultain and his associates, refusing to be "rubber stamps" for Royal, resigned.

Wave of Unrest

Immediately there was a new wave of dissatisfaction and a new demand for government that would be completely responsible to the people. Haultain knew what was wanted and needed and accepted the challenge to fight for a better deal in administration, just as William Lyon Mackenzie and Louis Papineau in Old Canada had fought for responsible government half a century earlier.

Something was achieved in 1891; the Ottawa government authorized that the Territories should have an Executive Committee responsible to the Legislative Assembly rather than to the Lieutenant-Governor. Haultain became the head or chairman of that executive that resembled a cabinet and in that capacity, was considered as the Premier of the North West Territories.

The newly formed governing body had plenty to do but little with which to work. Someone said that the North West Territories were being treated as though they were a colony of Canada. Revenues were inadequate and Haultain insisted that nothing less than full provincial autonomy would be satisfactory. In 1901, he formally presented his request for provincial status but Ottawa refused. His proposal called for the setting up of one big province rather than two smaller ones.

Federal indifference to the needs of the West was discouraging, but it was not defeat and Haultain pressed the fight with renewed vigor. He understood what was needed. He could see no reason for cutting the Territories to make two provinces, requiring "two sets of machinery"; he insisted that the new province or provinces should have control of education; he argued that a new provincial

government should be permitted to tax C.P.R. land and it should certainly hold the ownership of public lands and natural resources.

In seeking to get provincial ownership of lands and resources, one of his concerns was that if these remained with the Federal Government, homesteaders and settlers would be permitted, sooner or later, to go into the dry areas of the present South-Western Saskatchewan and South Eastern Alberta and convert good grassland to poor wheat land.

When provision was finally made for the creation of the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan, Haultain could not meet the Ottawa terms and it may have been that his opposition to the conditions imposed by the Dominion Government explained why he was not asked to become the first premier in one of the provinces. In Saskatchewan, Walter Scott was made premier and the man who had waged the most unrelenting fight to gain provincial rights and been the dominant political figure in the Territories for 15 years, became the leader of the opposition.

Warnings Ignored

Haultain's friends were visibly disappointed but the wisdom in the conditions to which he had adhered tenaciously became increasingly clear. Sure enough, homesteaders were allowed to settle on land unsuited to ordinary farming and Haultain's warnings were heeded too late.

Frederick Haultain continued as leader of the opposition in the Saskatchewan Legislature until 1912 when he was appointed Chief Justice in that province. In 1916, he was knighted and as Chancellor of the University of Saskatchewan for 22 years prior to 1939, there was a twinkle in his eye as he said, "I admit you" to each hundred of scholars in successive graduating classes.

Bob Edwards of Eye Opener fame, after listening to the funeral eulogy for a late member of the legislature, announced that he had at last discovered what constituted a statesman. "A statesman", said he, "is a dead politician. What this country needs is more statesmen". But the same Bob Edwards did not wait for death to declare Frederick Haultain "a very great statesman".

Without his leadership in Territorial years, western progress would have been retarded and without his ardent and sensible campaigning for Provincial Rights, the creation of the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta almost certainly would have been delayed beyond 1905.

And if he had his way, there would be a single province instead of the present two and one may speculate about which party would be in power in that big province extending from Manitoba to British Columbia. In any case, Sir Frederick rates a monument and clearly he deserves some recognition in this Jubilee year of 1955.



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Manure bucket



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Buck-rake



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*Manure bucket, dirt bucket, snow scoop, pitch control, bulldozer blade, angle dozer blade, buck-rake, push-off stacker, loader boom and grapple fork.

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Loans, exclusive of mortgage loans under N.H.A., total \$1,188,022,047, an increase of \$43,875,823 over the 1953 figure. Call loans at \$156,395,203, show a moderate increase, while other loans, including commercial loans in Canada, have increased by \$36,761,094 to \$1,031,626,844. The degree to which the Royal Bank has participated in mortgage lending under the provisions of the N.H.A., is reflected in the figures shown under the new heading "Mortgages and Hypotheces insured under the N.H.A. (1954)" namely \$22,672,390.

The liquid position of the bank is strong. Liquid assets amounting to \$1,851,900,848, are equal to 65.34% of the bank's liability to the public. Included in these liquid assets are Dominion and Provincial Government securities totalling \$969,888,546.

Profit for the year amounted to \$20,913,511. From this amount \$2,079,466 has been set aside for depreciation of bank premises and \$9,276,000 for income taxes. After the above deductions net profit was \$9,558,045 as compared with \$8,635,136 in 1953. Out of net profit, \$5,569,345 was paid in dividends to shareholders, leaving \$3,988,700, which added to the previous balance of \$1,515,375 totals \$5,504,075. Of this amount \$4,000,000 was transferred to the Rest Fund, leaving a balance of \$1,504,075.

Deposits have attained the impressive total of \$2,797,548,149, of which over \$1,126,000,000 are personal savings deposits payable in Canada.

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Are you a natural-born salesman or would you make a better mechanic? Have you got hidden talent for art, cookery or stenography? Would you be interested in getting the verdict of an expert on the character your handwriting reveals?

The Farm and Ranch has arranged with Mr. David Meyer, the author of this new and regular feature of the Farm and Ranch, to analyze the handwriting of its readers. Here are the rules:

Write at least 12 lines with pen and ink on good paper. Do NOT — repeat — NOT use a ball-point pen or pencil. Send it together with 25 cents in coin —

DAVID MEYER,

7½ Jane St., New York City, New York, U.S.A.

Do not send stamps and always enclose a self-addressed envelope.

Who do we like best? Ourselves of course!

By DAVID MEYER

IT may surprise you to learn that people do more thinking about themselves than about anyone or anything else. Sometimes this self-preoccupation may be direct, at other times indirect so that the individual is unaware of it. If you wish to verify this statement, take time off at the end of a day and try to recall your thoughts.

Now, this kind of thinking, in itself, is neither good nor bad. It is simply a fact of our nature. The question is: what does it reveal of our inner state of harmony or disharmony?

What secret thought is revealed by the first sample? Note

Kell 2. m 3. sul
4. King . 5. zym 6. to
7. sure
8. thing 9. goal

that the strokes are fine and meager and sharp. They point to an intellectual, a mental

Often, this silent operation of the mind would be amusing to another if he could read the unspoken thought. In sample number 2 found frequently in women's handwriting, note the leftward swirl in the first M and the high last stroke of the second M. Both tell us of a harmless sort of conceit, and the writer's secret thought is: I am God's own gift to mankind.

The writer of sample 3 touches us with pathos. The pressure is low, the writing small, the garlands are deep-saddled, and the letter "I" drops below the line. The secret thought is: "No matter how hard I try, nobody appreciates my efforts." Analyzing the formation of the word, we find that the small size and weak pressure indicate lack of self-appreciation and consequent lack of self-assertion. He needs to be reassured again and again of his worth. Also, the deep-saddled garlands indicate a gloomy view of life.

The writer of sample 4 is saying to himself: "Who does he think he is! I ought to tell him where to get off." Observe that the downstroke of the letter "g" does not come up but remains mutedly down. The writer finds it almost impossible to express anger. He considers it

Mr. Graingrower!

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"not nice" to blow his top even when unjustly provoked. He literally 'eats his heart out' in silence.

The private thought hidden in sample 5 is: "If they had my troubles, they would really have something to cry about." Note the sharpness of the writing, especially in the formation of the "y" and "u". Sharp writers have the tendency to relegate themselves to martyrdom. Regardless of whether or not their circumstances are prosperous or meager, they have an inner "need to suffer". Unconsciously they seek out or create situations to gratify this need. Their capacity for enjoyment is very low.

Sample 6 looks quite simple and harmless. But note the long, sharp T-bar. Here is the unspoken thought: "If I had his money and connections, I'd be a success, too." That long T-bar ending in a needle point discloses a jealous and resentful soul. The other chap's accomplishments are ever exaggerated to feed this inner jealousy.

You may bet that the unspoken thought of the writer of sample 7 is: "If he can do it, I can." The writing is leisurely, the letters are regular and broad, the movement is fluent. These traits spell self-faith, tolerance, courage, objectivity. This writer can take care of himself anywhere.

The secret thought contained in our 8th sample is: "Let him have his dough. I'd rather have my laugh." Note the wavy t-bar, the high curved i-dot, the fluency. The writer is blessed with a rich, inexhaustible sense of humor. He is fortunate, and he knows it. He is responsive to human beings and their foibles, witty, curious, tolerant. He is good company.

"I never worry because I know something will always turn up." This is the thought suggested by sample 9. Analyzing its structure, we find a broad and expansive movement, inflated upper and lower extensions, a rising line. The writer is hale and hearty, adventurous, sociable. He is an optimist and carries the burden of life lightly.

Pelleted barley

RESEARCH findings of the NDAC Experiment Station demonstrate that the feeding efficiency of ground and pelleted barley with hogs may equal or exceed that obtained with corn in the central states where hogs and corn have long been a profitable money-making combination.

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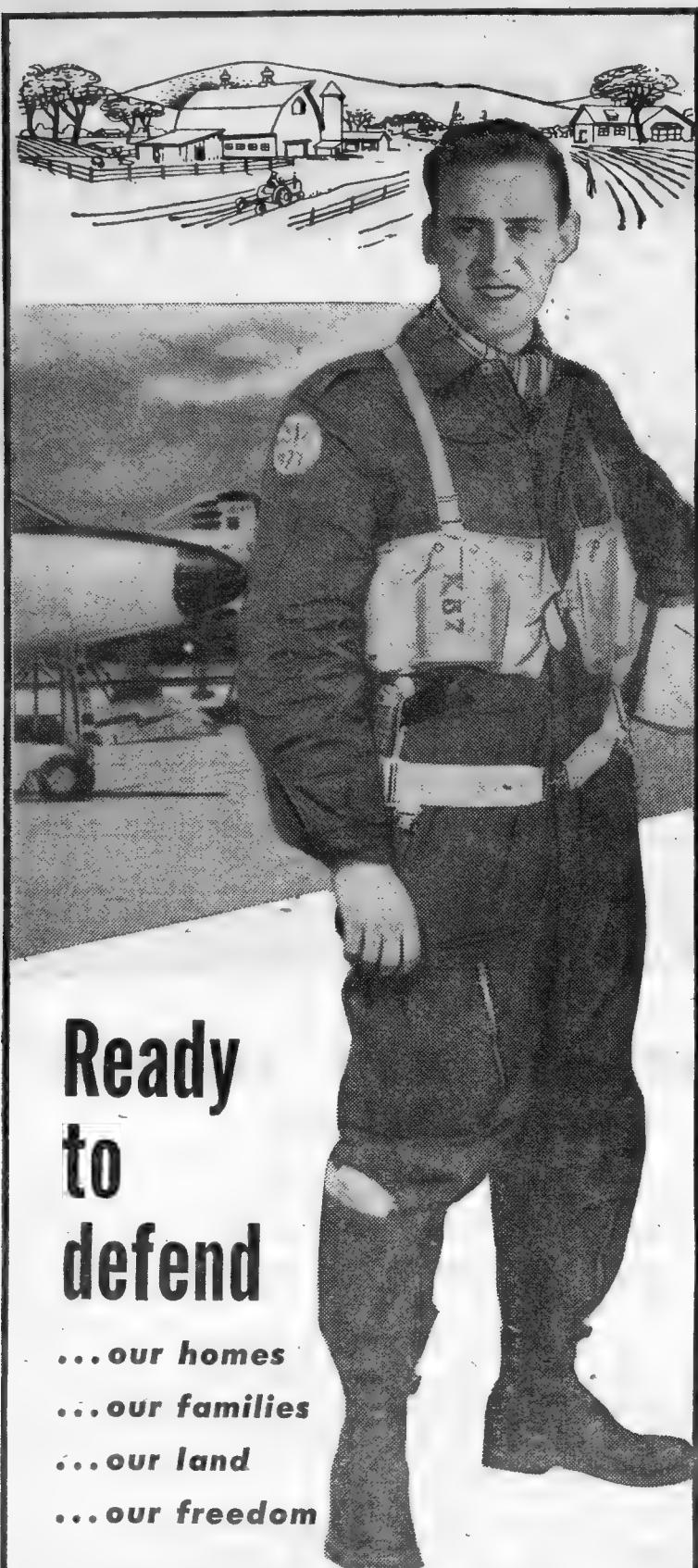
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ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE

Peaceful atomic power is around the corner

By BEN MALKIN

TWO relatively obscure news items which escaped general notice in December reported developments which may have a profound effect on the way of life of large areas of the world, including parts of Canada. In Britain it was announced that the United Kingdom's first atomic energy plant would be producing electric power on a commercial scale in 1956, and would be in full production by 1960.

In the United States it was announced that the Atomic Energy Commission had given a contract for construction, at a cost of \$2,000,000, of a portable electric power plant using atomic energy. The plant could be set up anywhere in the world—the U.S. wants it to power some of its more isolated military bases, as in Greenland—and once set up, the cost of bringing in fuel does not constitute a problem.

In addition, at the United Nations General Assembly a number of countries, including the U.S., Russia, Britain and Canada, agreed in principle to sharing atomic knowledge and materials. A U.N. agency to get the work going is under discussion.

The economic use of atomic energy as a means of obtaining electrical power is therefore no longer a pipe-dream. Certainly, the United States has made great advances in that direction (although at the last meeting of the U.N. general assembly, the Russians claimed to be well ahead in this field). But no one knows. The U.S. has, however, definitely built a workable plant that can be transported to remote areas. Undoubtedly, that's the kind of plant which the U.S. atomic submarine, the Nautilus, contains. Having done the initial experimental work, the U.S. is now going ahead with construction of transportable electric plants for use anywhere.

Canada is still in the experimental stage, but if the American proposals for an agency through which information can be exchanged go through, Canadian progress might be a lot faster than it has. Thus far, much information has been withheld from Canada because of the extremely tight U.S. security laws. Canada has had to pretty well go it alone in this field, and so has Britain, although some information is exchanged between these two countries. But a general loosening up of the security regulations would enable all interested countries to learn what they need to know without going over the same ground already covered by the U.S. and other advanced countries.

The advantage to Canada would of course be obvious. In Ontario, the St. Lawrence River development is the last source of cheap hydro-electric power left to the province, and its 1,200,000 horse-power will probably be in full use as soon as it is fed into the Ontario grid. Ontario authorities estimate the new sources of power—coal, gas, or atomic energy—will have to be found by 1960.

Ontario's water-power resources were once considered almost inexhaustible, and what has happened to this province, could happen to others. Therefore, the availability of atomic energy for power purposes is important to the whole country. Particularly, it would be valuable in areas where water power or cheap coal or gas is not readily available, because the cost of transporting atomic fuel is negligible.

The British plant, located at Calder Hill, Cumberland, is the result of four years of intensive engineering and scientific research, carried out on a massive scale. It is near the Windscale plutonium factory, where atomic fuel is manufactured. British research is now so advanced that the number of accidents at Windscale has been reduced to the point where the plant is considered quite safe by any industrial standards. Provided the workers wear protective clothing, they can carry out maintenance tasks in the heart of the plant. Among the 3,000 workers at Windscale, not a single case of radiation sickness has been noted.

Apart from the benefits which electric energy from atomic power might bring to Canada, it is of course clear that the new development could help greatly in bringing improved living standards to many parts of the world. The U.S. offer at the United Nations was to extend know how to backward countries, and to give atomic materials. Britain made a similar offer. By bringing electrical energy to nations that depend very largely on human and animal muscle, the West could help create friends and markets. The importance of the new development can hardly be overestimated.

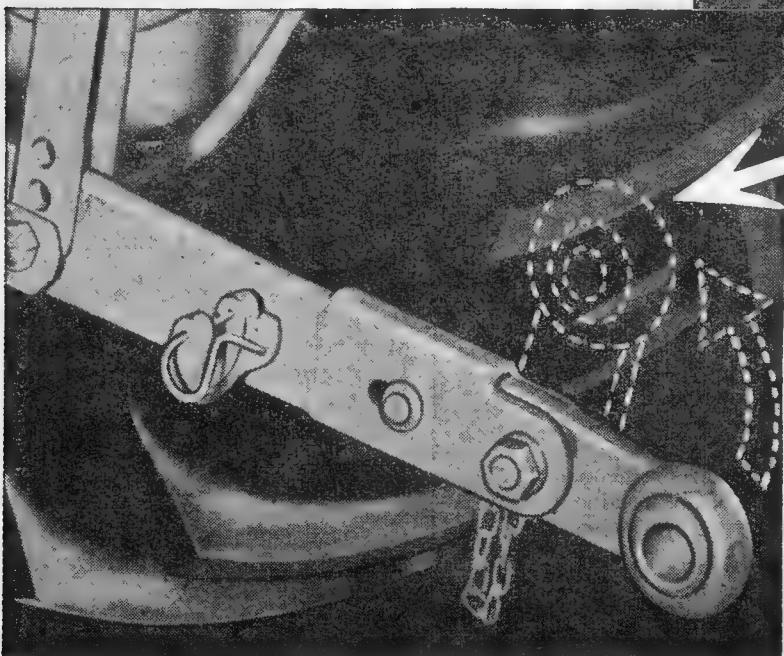
When a householder buys a roast, more than "just meat" is purchased; he or she buys essential food, superior protein, amino acids for which there is no substitute, phosphorus, iron and other minerals, thiamine, riboflavin, niacin, pantothenic acid and other vitamins, to say nothing of eating enjoyment that can aid digestion of the entire meal.

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THE depression period of the thirties may have been responsible for a much greater diversification of farm projects than the old adage "never put all your eggs in the basket". But farmers are proving that you can use too many baskets.

Somewhat a pendulum will swing so far and then it has a habit of swinging equally in the opposite direction. The urge when times were tough was to try a little of everything and hope to make a little from each project. As the markets improved first for one product and then another the farmer dropped those which showed poor returns for his investment of labor and capital and concentrated on those which would make him money.

The next step which was encouraged by the agricultural economists was to develop a working unit which seemed to grow bigger and bigger with the advent of specialized equipment. The combine spread the wheat

Are you caught in the "sidelines" rat-race?

By TOM LEACH

field over more acres. The milking machine put more dairy cows in the barn and self feeders put more cattle in the feed lot.

Figures today show that we have fewer farm flocks of poultry than we had ten years ago. In the United States only 78% of the farms now keep chickens. In 1944 the figure was 84%. Yet, while the number of farms keeping chickens is dropping, the number of poultry being raised has increased. But they are being grown on specialized poultry farms.

Too Many Jobs

It is not often that we find a farm with too many different jobs to be done at one time in these days of "specialization" unless it is on what some people

refer to as the hobby farm of the city dweller. But a short time ago I ran into such a farm simply by chance. What surprised me more than anything was the fact that it was being operated by a former wheat farmer who had moved to B.C. to retire.

I still marvel at the many sides there were to the operation of those 17 acres. After over-indulgence of good dill pickles I am apt to find myself trying to keep up with the chores on that farm in my sleep. It haunts me as a terrible nightmare.

I wake up in perspiration after feeding the chickens, milking the cows, cultivating the strawberries. Setting out the new broccoli plants and moving the

hay or hoeing the garden were after supper chores which could keep a body busy until dark.

All of the 85 minutes I was on the farm I spent waiting for the owner to complete some small chore that had to be finished at the moment, sitting on the edge of a chair. There was no time to relax. He sat with his arms straight out, his hands clasping the end of the chair arms ready to propell him into action as soon as another chore came to his mind.

When I called at this farm I had hoped to see a small fruit farm where a new variety of strawberry was going to be tested along with the standard British Sovereign which has been grown extensively in the Fraser Valley for the past twenty years. The plants are running out now and growers are finding it difficult even with good management to obtain satisfactory yields.

The first thing I looked at was his present field of strawberries. Five acres in all and in their second year of production. I always liked to see a good healthy growth of green leaves on the plants before they went into winter. These appeared uneven. Some were good and others weak and emaciated.

Rush Here

Before I could make a guess at the cause of trouble he arrived and rushed me over to the poultry house. It was double decked and filled to capacity according to floor area and thinking back I believe there were too many hens for the cubic feet of air space in the building. I didn't have time to find out because he found it necessary to hasten me over to the pasture field where the drought of the summer had dried the grass up.

The shortage of pasture made it essential for him to buy feed this year. What he could buy locally had not been good feed and the cows dropped in their milk. The four cows hardly paid for their feed now.

Again we rushed off to another idea he had. This time we went inside the house to look over the plans for the new laying house which he hoped to build during the winter. I tried to inject a question about the value of more laying houses when he had so little time on his hands with the present flock and other work on the farm, but words were never said. He was talking about the present hired help.

Inside of two years of operation he had experienced the disappointment of keeping several men for only a few weeks. They had been highly recommended as good workers but he found that they didn't know how to work. They were slow. They poked at a job instead of getting it done.

Rush There

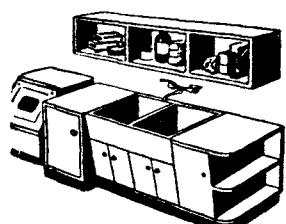
Before we had time to review the problems of a hired man on a diversified small fruit farm he recalled that the truck would be

NEW IDEAS IN FIR PLYWOOD

Easily constructed built-ins provide valuable extra storage space.

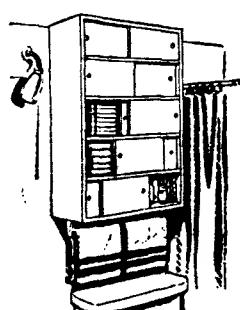
No improvement adds more dollar value to your home than extra storage space. With fir plywood, it is easy to make good-looking storage built-ins of all kinds—large or small.

For example, in the utility room you can face-in laundry tubs with waterproof-glue fir plywood — make them look neat and, at the same time, obtain extra storage underneath. Fir plywood marked PMBC EXTERIOR has waterproof-glue and will not delaminate.



Storage under laundry tubs modernizes old units.

The handy "odds and ends" cabinet shown here doesn't require any difficult prelim-



Useful "odds and ends" cabinet.

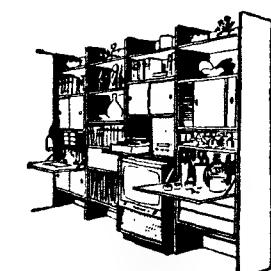
inary framing. It can be hung on the bathroom wall or used in the kitchen or utility room.

The sketch on the right shows how you can readily utilize waste space beneath the sloping roofs of your attic for under-eave storage by making a built-in of fir plywood.

This unit provides a reach-in closet, cabinets and drawers, and rear chamber for bulk storage.

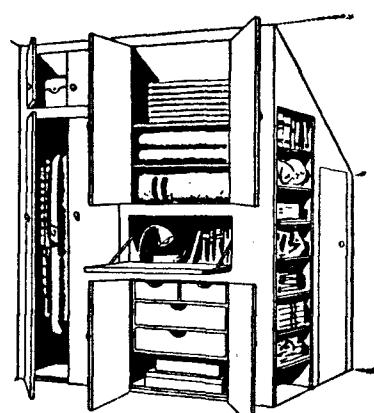
Here's a home improvement you can make without interfering with the daily work routine in your home.

In the living room, you can build a storage wall that is also a "feature" wall, with a place for everything from books to bric-a-brac. Or you can partition any large room with a storage wall providing cupboards on each side. Fir plywood is the economy plywood for all work inside and out.



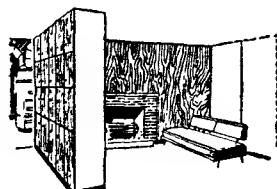
Storage Wall

The large, light panels of fir plywood are easy to handle, saw, and nail — they do not chip, split or puncture. And these smooth, sanded panels



Under-eave storage puts waste space to good use.

can be finished with conventional wall and wood-work paints, or with glazes, stains and wipe-down finishes that preserve the natural beauty of the wood and highlight the grain pattern.



Fir plywood storage wall is also partition.

By studying the basic ideas given here, you can design your own built-ins. But first, talk over your plans with your lumber dealer; he will gladly estimate just how much plywood you'll need, and give many helpful suggestions. Ask for his easy-to-follow plans of fir plywood projects, or if he is out of stock write:

Plywood Manufacturers
Association
of British Columbia,
550 Burrard Street,
Vancouver 1, B.C.

along for the eggs that afternoon and some had to be cleaned and packed before they could be shipped. He called loudly to his wife in the nearby field where she had been busy during the visit, recovering a small harvest of broccoli which had grown leaf instead of marketable heads.

As I left he was rushing into the basement to pack the eggs. His wife was hard on his heels and I have never gone back since. I have tried to relax from the thoughts that rushed through my mind as I drove slowly down the road taking a final glance over those few acres that piled one climax after another on the head of its owner day after day.

I have told this story to others. Some disbelieve the fact that this man ever farmed before. Others tell me it is not so rare as I might think. They say that too many farmers are still playing around with "sidelines" which mean nothing to them financially.

They continue to raise a few chickens to have fresh eggs when the neighbor a quarter of a mile along the road keeps a flock of 3,000 hens and would let him have all the eggs he requires each week.

A poultry breeder told me more recently that he had sold his two cows. "Why?" was my immediate question. It apparently required almost 3 hours a day to provide the feeding and bedding and do the milking. After he had lost one calf and had the cost of a veterinarian's services he came to the conclusion that he could purchase all his milk requirements for less than his cows cost him.

He explained that there were

Snow in the Mountains.

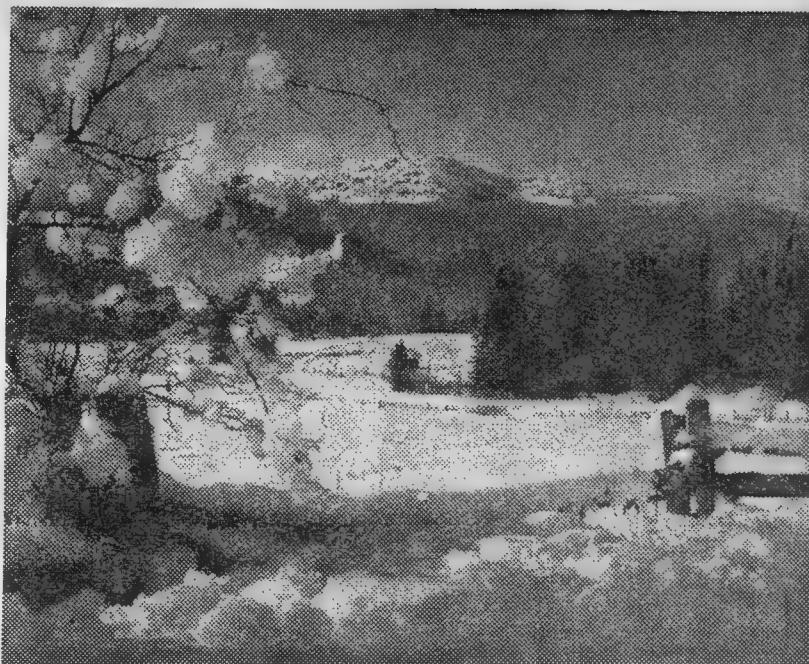


Photo by Clemson.

times of the year when they couldn't use all of the milk and the balance after skimming went to the chickens. "I can buy skim milk for them cheaper," but he added, "the idea isn't so popular with the family because they don't think the milk we buy is so good." However, he believed they would get over that idea and his man could do better work when he spent all of his time with the poultry.

That seems to be the general attitude among B.C. farmers. Extra sidelines are gradually being dropped from the farm and only where the work will fill in spare periods of time which would otherwise be wasted are they being maintained. A turkey producer said more recently that he had discontinued his

breeding flock. He no longer hatches his turkey eggs. Instead he is buying poult and "that way," he said, "I can have my choice and get the best." He is concentrating his effort on year-round turkey production. When he has his turkeys fattened for market he sells them — live weight to the packer.

He claimed that when the price for live turkeys gets too low to make a profit from raising them he should get out of the business. It shouldn't require other ventures to keep me in the turkey raising business. A good accountant will tell him he is right.

Manitoba's sunflower crop is expected to exceed \$1 million annually.



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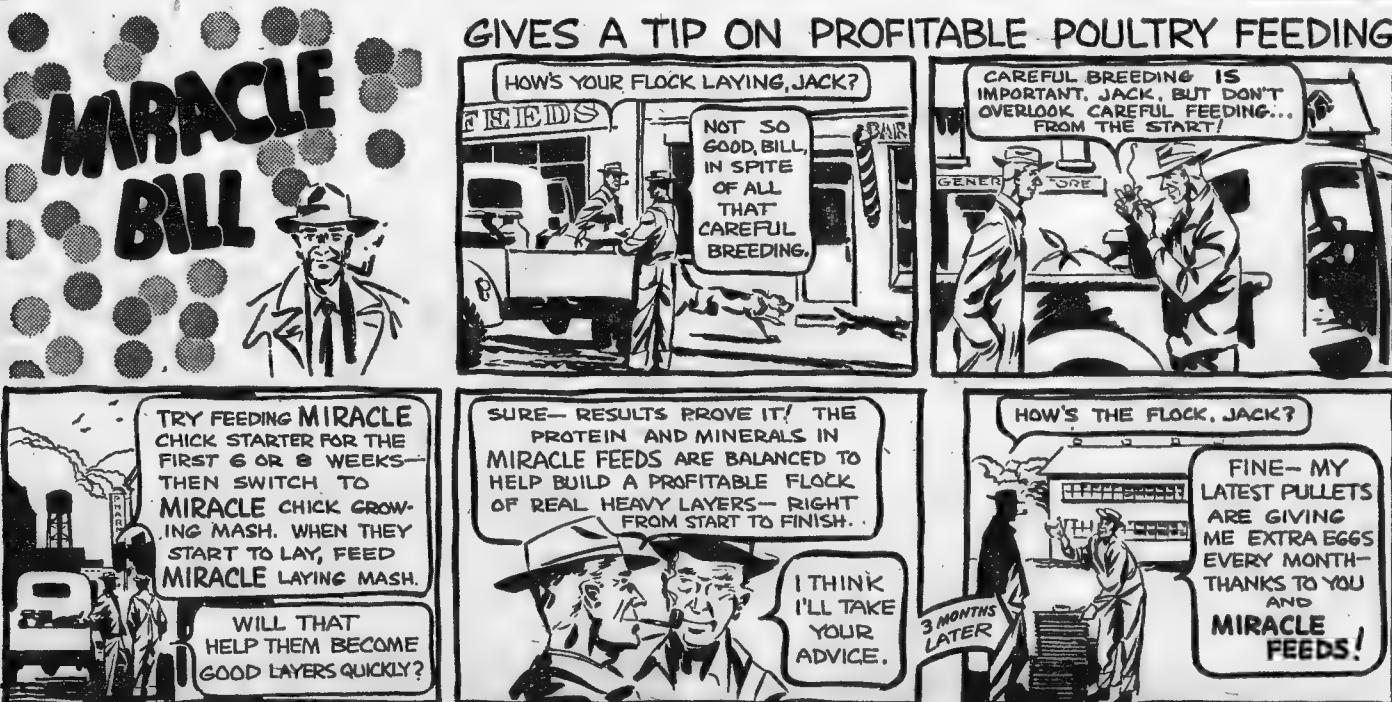
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(crumbles or pellets)

(crumbles)

(crumbles or pellets)

(crumbles or pellets)



AT this dead season of the year we became more conscious of the value of Evergreens in Prairie gardens, where for the next few months little of interest may be seen, except the colorful bark of Willows and Dogwoods.

In planning to establish a plantation of Evergreens two things come to mind: The first, the need of shelter, and second, the importance of obtaining hardy stock. Most of the failures with these plants may be traced to using tender stock, careless handling, and exposing the plants to drying winds.

A wide variety of Evergreens are now available, which have been propagated from hardy strains by Prairie nurserymen, and this stock will prove a much better investment than plants from the milder sections of the country.

Prairie gardens can use these evergreens

By H. F. HARP

Spruces, Pines, Firs, Arbor-Vitae, Yew, Pachystima and Japanese Spurge are some of the most reliable. Choice forms of the Colorado Spruce such as Kosters, Moerheim, Enzii are costly trees as they are produced by graftage which is a highly skilled means of propagation needing the facilities of a greenhouse and several years to produce a saleable plant. They are worthy of special care and should be allowed to develop.

The practice of trimming Spruces to mushroom-shaped

specimens is condemned by all who have an eye for beauty. No improvement on their noble outline can be made by the use of the pruning shears.

Sometimes a prized tree may have suffered the loss of its leader or tip growth through ice storm or violent wind, where this has happened a satisfactory repair job can be done by tying an old broom handle to the main trunk. The top of the broom handle should project about two feet above the break. A suitable side branch is then carefully drawn up to a near vertical position and tied to the stake. In a few years this new leader will be difficult to distinguish from the original tip growth.

Spruces should not be planted near sidewalks or as foundation plantings as they soon get out of hand. The hardy form of Arbor Vitae, such as Ware's, Pyramidal, and St. John's Lake are useful for making a hedge or as specimens in the shrub border. Syranidal Arbor-vitae make attractive plants when used to flank the front entrance to the house. In time they, too, will outgrow the space allotted them, but may be kept in good shape for fifteen years or so.

For hedge making, young plants a foot high are best. Set them in a single row, spacing them eighteen inches apart. No pruning is necessary until the third year, and then only the tips of the plants are nipped off and the side growths cut back to maintain the base of the hedge not more than a foot wide. One trimming each year (in early July) is all that is required to keep the hedge in good shape.

Dryness in the atmosphere during the winter months is the most trying condition the Evergreens have to put up with, but much can be done to relieve this distress. In the first place the soil should never become

powder dry about the roots, especially when the plants are first set out. Later, when the first frost comes, the soil should be saturated. An Evergreen plant which goes into winter in a dry state will often suffer browning of the foliage the following spring.

Good snow coverage is very important, so that every effort should be made to hold the snow about the roots of Evergreens. A few pieces of brush or corn stalks will answer the purpose. Flax straw can be used too.

The Spruces make excellent hedges and windbreaks. The same treatment as recommended for the Arbor-Vitae will serve, except to increase the planting distance to two feet. Clean cultivation about the base of the hedge must be maintained at all times. Nothing retards the healthy growth of Evergreens, or, for that matter, any plant as having to compete for soil moisture with grass or weeds.

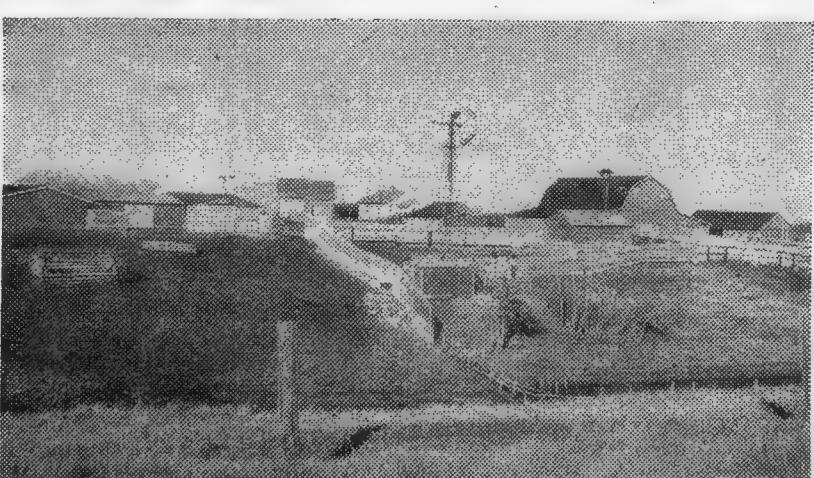
Specimen Evergreens planted adjacent to lawns should never be allowed to extend over the grass area; the grass edge should be cut back as required.

Pines. — The Pines like the leaner and sandier soils. Heavy clay loams, especially where there is danger of water lying in the spring will not suit these plants at all. The most suitable species for use in Prairie gardens are Mugho Pine, Scotch Pine, Red Pine, Swiss Stone Pine. The latter is the hardest, five-needle Pine, slow growing and choice for the small property. Its dark green needles are especially attractive in the wintertime.

Red Pine and Scotch Pine need plenty of room for their full development and may only be used on large properties.

The Mugho Pine is a variable species ranging from dwarfs to twenty-foot sprawling specimens. The low forms are good material for foundation planting, for rock gardens and small shrubbery plantings. When used as hedge plants the Pines are best pruned into shape by using the seccateurs or pruning knife rather than the hedge shears.

Master Farm Home



The W. R. Storch farmstead near Garden Plains, 20 miles north-east of Hanna, is shown above.



Prostrate forms of Evergreens are excellent for ground cover. Recommended are the new Russian forms of Savin Juniper, Scandia and Acadia. These are superior to the native Juniper which tends to purpling of the foliage in the autumn. The Russian forms stay bright green all through the winter months.

Pachystima Canbyi has attractive foliage all year round; good for a half shady spot. It grows about a foot high.

Rocky Mountain Juniper should not be attempted where Hawthorn or Cotoneaster is grown as these plants act as alternative hosts for cedar apple rust which plays havoc with the Junipers. No remedial measures are effective against this disease, so that one has to forego either the Juniper or the Hawthorn and Cotoneasters.

In preparing the soil for Evergreens, a pailful of granulated peat moss should be worked into the soil about each plant. This is preferred to barnyard manure which, unless quite decomposed, is best kept away from the roots of Evergreens.

Planting in the spring is usually best; mid-May being about the right time. August planting is satisfactory if soil moisture is adequate. Take care the plants are not set too deeply, nor should the lower tier of branches be partially covered with soil. Frequent spraying with water during periods of drought will be beneficial. It should be applied during the evening hours.

Pine needle scale, if allowed to go unchecked, will soon sap the tree of vigor. Spruce trees as well as pines are susceptible. Recent experimental work has indicated that "Malathion" is more effective control than lime sulphur or miscible oils. Infested trees should be sprayed in early June and again in August. Both applications should be thorough as the undersides of the needles must be weeded. 3 fluid ozs. of 50% Malathion emulsion is mixed with 5 gal. of soft water. If the 25% wettable Malathion is used, 8 ozs. per 5 gallons of water is the correct strength.

Seasonable Hints
House Plants. — Plants that

have become dust-laden may be past. Occasionally a fairly good plant is seen which has been carried over a year. The treatment recommended to carry over an Azalea plant is as follows: As soon as the blossoms fade they should be picked off. Wash the plant in soft, soapy water to which has been added a teaspoonful of nicotine (Black Leaf 40°) per gallon.

No fertilizer should be applied during the period of dark days, and all plants should be kept fairly dry until the days lengthen again.

Cyclamen plants that were received as a gift at Christmas time often lose a lot of leaves through being chilled in transit. They are best kept in full sunlight until March. Watering them sparingly until they return to full vigor.

Azaleas — These handsome, showy plants which brighten the florists' windows are often a problem in the home. In most instances they are discarded when the blooming season is

The plant will do best in a sunny window until mid-March, when subdued light should be given. In June, when all danger of frost is past, it may be set outside in the garden—not in full sun. At no time must it suffer from lack of water or the leaves will fall.

In early September it is restored to the sunny window sill and given a teaspoonful of complete fertilizer.

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This summer, when my little nephew was visiting us, he went out to play by himself. I was sent out to bring him in as he was only 2½ years old. I could hear him crying but could not see him. I looked on the shelf where we kept the cream cans and there he was, only his head sticking out of a 5-gallon can. I tried to take him out, but his shoulders stuck, so I called mother. She was so surprised she laughed when she saw him. I held the can still while she eased his arms out one at a time. He ran to his mother and told her the cream can caught him.

P. M. Durling.
Westlock R.R. No. 2, Alta.

As I walked by our house one day, I heard a scratching sound coming from the eavestrough. The noise seemed to be moving, so I followed it. Was I surprised when out of the drain-pipe flew a frightened little sparrow.

Evette Hintz.
Box 109, Muenster, Sask.

Our neighbors have some turkeys. In the spring a few years ago one of the female turkeys laid a nest of eggs out by the straw stack. When the gobbler found out about it he made a nest directly across from it. Every time the female went off to eat, the gobbler pushed all the eggs underneath himself. Then, when she came back, she sat down and waited for the gobbler to go and eat. She would

then steal her eggs back. Surprisingly after a month of this procedure, three little turkeys walked out after the gobbler who had managed to get the turkey eggs last.

Audrey Olson.
Box 27, R.R. 1, Ponoka, Alta.

We have a squirrel living in our granary. Last year she raised her little ones there. Now she is getting food gathered in for winter. She buries pine cones, toadstools and bones, also heads of barley and wheat in the grain. We pick them out and put them in a pail, but the squirrel picks them up and puts them back in the grain. She should not get hungry this winter should she?

Judy Moorhouse.
Breton, Alberta.

I was visiting at a neighbor's one day when a couple of little birds landed on the window sill. They hopped around, chattering, as if looking for something. When the lady of the house saw them she took a slice of bread and pinned it on the clothes-line just outside the window. The birds immediately landed on it and began to eat. Soon a whole flock appeared to clean up the crumbs. They were Chickadees, and they seemed quite tame and fearless.

Joyce Durling.
Westlock, Alta.

CHRISTMAS is a creed. It is a creed about God, a creed about man, and a creed about the way to live. Will you live by it in the New Year of 1955?

Christmas states the priority of God. When Cyrus Field completed the cable across the Atlantic on October 17, 1858, the first message that went from America to Ireland was, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, goodwill toward men". We have forgotten that sequence. First comes "Glory to God". Often at Christmas we see signs, "On earth peace, goodwill toward men", as if we could have peace and goodwill without God.

God comes first or nowhere. He is either all-important or unimportant. Most of us play at religion. We have a polite attitude toward "a Supreme Being". "What this parish needs", said Carlyle, "is someone who knows God other than by hear-

Can you keep Christmas throughout 1955?

By DR. FRANK S. MORLEY, Ph.D. (Edin.) B.D.

say". But most people don't. God is not a personal Power, radiant, inspiring, transforming.

David Livingstone was one of this world's amazing men. He studied to be a doctor, then studied theology, and went to Africa. He covered one-third of the continent, going right into central Africa, into areas white men had never seen before. He was often in the greatest danger. Some of his greatest fighting came when he returned to condemn slavery and tell of its frightful evils. But Livingstone was completely "God's man". "I will place no value on anything I may possess", he said, "except

in relation to the kingdom of God".

"The Lost Radiance of the Bible consists of one fact: without God man goes to Hell. Without God our world is damned. Many people have spoken of "The Lost Radiance of the Christian Gospel". Much truer is it to speak of "The Lost Urgency of the Christian Gospel".

Dr. Ernest Ditcher, a psychologist, took a poll asking, "What worries you most at the present time?" Sixty-two per cent replied that they were worried about lack of a spiritual faith. Most of the others should be worried. Recently a writer suggested that a Church marriage was all right for "those

who have a taste for that sort of thing". As if Christianity was just a matter of taste! "Thou shalt have no other Gods before me". "Thou shalt love the Lord Thy God with all Thy heart...". All or nothing. All-important or unimportant.

The name "Jesus" means "God is salvation". The greatest heresy of our age was spat out by Hitler's youth, "We require no salvation. We shall save ourselves. We need no other God than that which comes from the German soil and the German soul". But that faith is not different from the faith of Communism. It is not different from the practical atheism of a vast number of our own Canadians. As Franz Werfel says, "The world has forgotten in its preoccupation with Left and Right that there is an Above and Below".

The Creed.

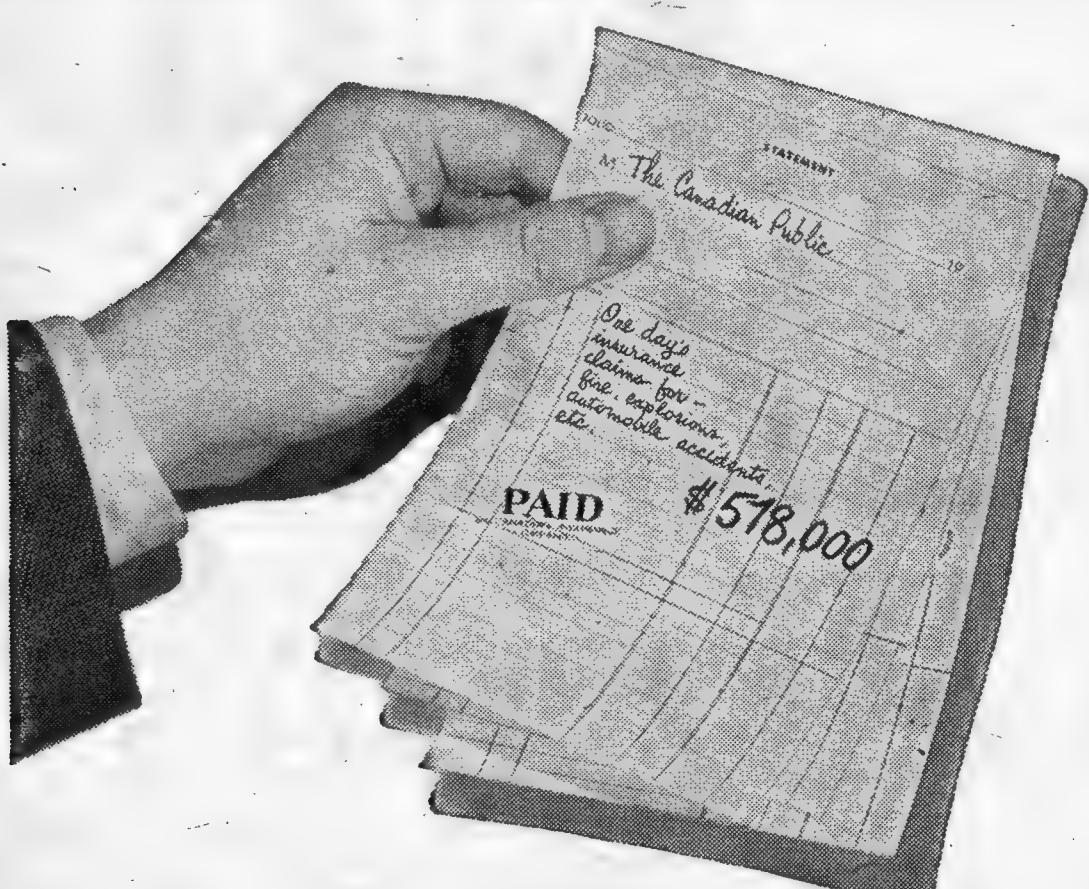
The creed of Christmas maintains that God can speak to us. He spoke to the Wise men through nature; He spoke to the shepherds in a vision; He spoke to Joseph in a dream; He spoke to Mary through a messenger. God comes to each of us through a different door. But God does keep up a continual conversation with every man — if he would only listen!

Secondly, Christmas is a creed about man. The message of the Incarnation is that "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us". Now here is a sharp rebuff to the Medieval idea that the flesh is evil. People have whipped their bodies, they have starved themselves, they have practised sexual abstinence, in the belief that this world was evil and fleshly desire and fleshly enjoyment were sinful. (Jesus was called "a gluttonous man and a winebibber".)

"The Word became flesh" is one of the most tremendous statements ever uttered. It states that if God rules, then everything is good. If the Devil rules, then everything is bad. At Creation "God saw everything that He had made and, behold, it was very good". Everything can be lovely if "Christ be formed in you", if Christ's spirit controls you.

Consequently Christmas expresses faith in man. Shepherds were a despised lot, poor and miserable, but it was to them the angels came. All through His life, however, Jesus was to see the saint in every sinner. He certainly saw the evil in man, but He also saw the potential good. Like Michelangelo who gazed in rapture at an ugly discarded piece of marble. "What do you see Michelangelo?" asked him. "I see an angel!" So the Christmas creed says that "to as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the Sons of God".

Thirdly, the Christmas creed describes the way to live. Christ described Himself as "The Way".



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Most people have no sense of direction. They live with "a sure grasp of confusion". No one ever accomplishes anything unless he has a star to follow, a cause to give himself to, a motive or passionate devotion.

Christianity calls us to adventure. If you read the eleventh chapter of Hebrews you will find that every single hero mentioned there was a man of adventure who "went out, not knowing where he went". He was true to his call. Whitehead, the great philosopher, says that "Without adventure civilization is in full decay". Toynbee, possibly our greatest living man, says that the love of adventure is what makes civilization. But this adventure is based upon faith. So faith is found two hundred and fifty times in the New Testament. It is mentioned in twenty-four of the twenty-seven books. Our religious fathers were men with empires in their brains because God was in their hearts. They said "Give me liberty or give me death", because they wanted to serve God freely. We say, "Give me security or give me death", because we worship Mammon slavishly.

To Travell

All followers of Christ are called to be travellers. Like the Wise Men. Like Mary and Joseph. Like the Shepherds. Most of us want "a house by the side of the road" — or, better still, off the road. Like Sidney in Marquand's book, "Melville Goodwin, U.S.A.", our lives have been "egocentric striving". As Sidney says, "I had never been a selfless part of a cause. I had never tossed my life in front of me and followed it. I had never commanded a lost hope. I had never obeyed a call".

The way of life includes all people. The Wise Men were "foreigners". Today nothing is doing more damage to our world than racial hatred. Africa is a seething witch's cauldron of evil racialism. Malan has followed a policy that has always been more or less pursued in South Africa of trying to keep the Africans as laboring oxen. He even tried to wipe out the mission schools. One of the reasons why Gandhi was embittered against the British Empire and why in consequence we almost lost India to the Commonwealth was the humiliating treatment he and other Indians received in South Africa because they were "colored". Now Malan's successor has promised that if Malan chastised them with whips he will chastise them with scorpions. The whole racial policy is one of diabolical brutality.

A teacher had difficulty with one boy who despised other races. She rebuked him, "Paul you shouldn't speak to Bob like that. He's your brother". It needed a lot of proving on the teacher's part, but it is true that "In Christ there is no East or West, in Him no South or North. But one great fellowship of love throughout the whole round earth". In Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, bond nor free".

The Christmas Creed declares a whole way of life. The Christmas Creed carries a complete salvation, a salvation for the whole man. It isn't just "spiritual". The Church in South Africa was never so powerful, never so well attended, never so rich, but never more cowardly, inaffectionate, and false to the Gospel. Otherwise they would be condemning a political party that is making a mockery of the Gospel.

In a poll taken to discover how many parents wished their sons to enter politics, only 28% were in favor and 66% were absolutely opposed because they said, "There's too much graft in politics. It's too hard for a politician to be honest". Now this attitude is thoroughly un-Christian. Why do you think Herod tried to kill Jesus? Because Herod saw that Christ would make dictators like himself impossible. Remember the Magnificat, that most revolutionary of songs, "He hath put down the mighty from their seats"? So a man who is truly Christian will put Christianity into everything he does, even politics. Christianity is not a cosmetic. Christianity is a crusade against "principalities and powers". And if you don't think so, read the words of Jesus in Matthew, Chapter 23. The story of the crucifixion is in Chapter 27!

The Christmas Creed is not just a sweet little story of moonlight and roses, of stars and bells and babies and sheep. The Christmas Creed is the faith that a sovereign God offers salvation to all men; that every man can become divine; and that there is a way of life that leads to life and heaven. The other way leads to death and Hell. Every man has the two ways before him.

*"Sunrise and Morning Star
And one clear call to give,
And may there be no clouding of the
sky
When I go forth to live.
But such a glow as, shining, seems
ablaze,*

*Too full for shade or night,
When that which drew from out the
sun's vast rays
Bursts into light.*

*Daylight and Morning Bell,
And after that to work;
And may there be no soft and subtle
spell
To make me shirk.
For though into the maze of toil and
strife
My tasks may set my way,
I hope to meet my Master, life to life,
As I shall live this day."*

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THE freight rates on export grain which constitutes one-third of the freight traffic on the Canadian Pacific Railway are fixed by parliament and yield $\frac{1}{2}c$ per ton mile, which is about one-third the level of the United States rail rates on grain moving comparable distances. That statement was made by N. R. Crump, vice-president of the Canadian Pacific Railway, in an address to the annual convention of the Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association on August 23rd. Mr. Crump said that the average revenue for his railway in 1953 on all freight traffic, other than grain and grain products which moved on export rates, was 1.8c per ton mile which meant that the statutory grain rates were only about 27% of the level of all other rates.

The present export rate for grain from Calgary is 20c a hundred pounds to the Pacific coast or 12c a bushel for wheat. To Fort William the rate is 26c a hundred pounds or 15.6c a bushel. Mr. Crump said those

Here are the facts on grain freight rates

(From the Wheat Pool Budget)

rates are about 27% of the average level of all other rates.

To bring grain rates up to parity with other rates would cost 44c to move a bushel of export wheat from Calgary to the Pacific coast and 57c to Fort William. Such rates would put the majority of western grain growers out of business.

It is only on export grain rates that the low freight charges prevail. Movement of grain within Canada brings a substantially higher freight rate. The export rates were fixed under the Crow's Nest Pass agreement and were part of a deal made between the government of Canada and the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1897, when the company undertook to construct a

railway from Lethbridge through the Crow's Nest Pass to Nelson, B.C. In consideration for the C.P.R. accepting a fixed rate for transporting export grain and flour the government gave a cash subsidy amounting to \$3,404,702.00.

The province of British Columbia gave the railway a grant of 3,620,000 acres of land including mineral rights and the company was also able to acquire the B.C. Southern Railway with all its subsidy rights for a nominal sum.

The C.P.R. also obtained for the sum of \$800,000, the Columbia and Western Railway including 33 miles of railroad and property at Trail, B.C., which subsequently developed into the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company, which has been a source of tremendous wealth to the railway.

Through the deal the C.P.R. obtained a monopoly on railway transportation in that part of the province of Alberta lying south of Calgary and well into British Columbia.

While the Crow's Nest Pass agreement has not turned out as advantageously to the Canadian Pacific Railway as officials thought would be the case at the time, the company has benefited substantially from other dealings with the Canadian government.

For instance a sum of \$25,000,000 was granted from the federal treasury to aid in the construction of the trans-continental line. The C.P.R. was also given 25,000,000 acres of land in western Canada. Much of that land has been sold and provided a substantial revenue. The company had the foresight, however, to retain oil and mineral rights on 11,384,256 acres in the prairie provinces. These rights have already proven extremely valuable to the company and their value will increase as oil exploration expands.

The economy of western Canada is based mainly on grain production and particularly wheat. For every 10 bushels delivered into commercial channels the normal wheat export ratio is eight bushels. No other nation in the world grows wheat for export in such volume so far from water transportation.

Any substantial rise in the grain export freight rate places the western wheat producer at a competitive disadvantage and affects the livelihood of virtually every individual in the prairie provinces. That is why farm organizations strenuously oppose any move designed to destroy the Crow's Nest Pass agreement.

Safety Sam Says...



*Taming Lions
is no trick...*

*compared to
speeding when
it's slick!*

We'll bet even a lion-tamer wouldn't consider speeding over slippery roads. Because if he did, his chances of living long enough to do any more lion-taming wouldn't be so good. Just like your chances of doing any more of whatever you like to do wouldn't be so good. It's a thought to consider, what with Winter all around us.



ABA 8

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Evaporated milk adds flavor to recipes

Quick Chicken Chowder

Makes 4 to 5 Servings.

4 medium onions, diced
3 tablespoons butter
1½ cups mashed potatoes
2 (10 ounce) cans chicken with rice soup
½ teaspoon salt
Few grains pepper
1 large can evaporated milk

METHOD : 1. Cook onions in melted butter until clear but not brown, about 15 minutes.

2. Add potatoes, soup and seasonings and blend well.

3. Add evaporated milk slowly just before serving and reheat.

Note : For quick mock vichyssoise, chill well. Serve with a sprinkling of chopped chives on top.

Bacon Beef Patties

Makes 6 Servings.

1½ pounds ground beef
½ cup quick cooking rolled oats
1 medium onion, diced
1 teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon pepper
½ teaspoon dry mustard
½ cup evaporated milk
12 bacon slices

METHOD : 1. Combine all ingredients well.

2. Shape into patties. Wrap each patty in a slice of bacon and secure with a toothpick. Place in a buttered baking dish.

3. Bake in a moderate oven (350° F.) 45 to 60 minutes.

Salmon Bake

Makes 4 Servings.

3 tablespoons butter
3 tablespoons flour
½ teaspoon pepper
¼ teaspoon pepper
¼ teaspoon monosodium glutamate
2 cups evaporated milk
½ cup diced celery
1 (8 ounce) can salmon, flaked liquid from salmon
1 recipe of biscuit dough, rolled 1½ inches thick

METHOD : 1. Melt butter in top of double boiler over hot water, blend in flour, salt, pepper and monosodium glutamate.

2. Add evaporated milk gradually and stir until thickened.

3. Add celery, salmon and liquid from salmon and mix thoroughly.

4. Pour into buttered 1½ quart casserole and cover with biscuit dough.

5. Bake in a hot oven (450° F.) for 15 to 20 minutes.

Note : 2 cups of mashed potatoes may be used as a topping.

Corn and Egg Scallop

Makes 4 Servings.

1 cup evaporated milk
1 tablespoon butter
1 (20 ounce) can cream style corn
¾ cup salted cracker crumbs
3 hard cooked eggs, diced
2 tablespoons diced onion
¼ cup sliced stuffed or ripe olives, if desired
¼ teaspoon celery salt
¼ teaspoon salt
few grains pepper
1/3 cup salted cracker crumbs

METHOD : 1. Heat evaporated milk and butter in top of double boiler over hot water.

2. Combine all ingredients, except the 1/3 cup cracker crumbs, in a large bowl.

3. Pour mixture into a buttered 1½ quart size casserole.

4. Sprinkle top with cracker crumbs and dot with butter.

5. Bake in a moderate oven (350° F.) for 40 minutes or until heated through.

Emerald Isle Salad

Makes 6 to 8 Salads.

(20 ounce) can drained grapefruit segments, cut up juice from grapefruit segments
1 package lime jelly powder
2 tablespoons lemon juice
¼ teaspoon salt
1 cup evaporated milk, chilled icy cold
½ cup chopped pecans
½ cup chopped celery

METHOD : 1. Heat juice and add to lime jelly powder. Stir until jelly powder is dissolved, then add lemon juice and salt.

2. Chill until mixture begins to thicken.

3. Stir in milk, pecans, celery and grapefruit segments.

4. Pour into individual molds, first frying pan and stir until it is a golden brown syrup.

5. Gradually add hot water and mix thoroughly.

6. Scald evaporated milk in top of double boiler over hot water and add syrup.

7. To serve, unmold, garnish with shredded cocoanut and banana slices.

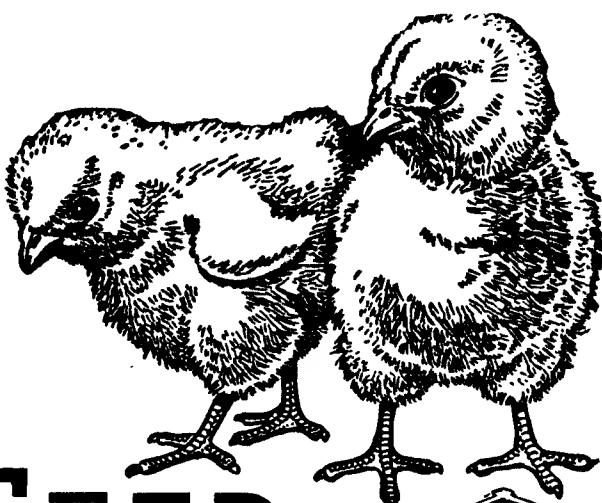
8. Combine cornstarch, brown sugar, salt and water.

9. Add to hot mixture, stirring constantly until mixture thickens.

10. Cool slightly and add vanilla. Pour pudding into a buttered mold and chill until firm.

11. To serve, unmold, garnish with shredded cocoanut and banana slices.

METHOD : 1. Melt ¾ cup sugar in



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Meditations at Twilight

By A. L. MARKS

On being "Too Busy"

A DETROIT lawyer telephoned another lawyer whose stenographer stated he was busy. He tried it several times with the same result before exclaiming to his own stenographer: "Did you ever know of anyone who was so busy he didn't have time to do anything?"

How do we get that way? It's really simple. Too easy, in fact.

These are some of the ways: put off till later, what needs doing now; don't plan your time; don't keep a record of your plans; don't notify others concerned of a change in your plans — there are heaps of ways, all unjustified.

What do you do when the showdown comes? That is the important thing.

Try this: pick out some task that seems near, immediate, and relatively important, and get busy at it. As you work at it your mind will come to your assistance in sorting out the order you should follow.

The order has revealed itself to you because you have entered into the spirit of DOING SOMETHING about the situation. Your will has been inspired into activity by getting at some definite point of the problem.

That is one of the psychological reasons for, and justifications of the slogan we used to hear and read some years ago: "DO IT NOW!"

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And now we face a brand new year.
The year one-nine-five-five:
If I can help each one a bit,
I'm glad to be alive.

SEVERAL times throughout the past years I have tossed some question back to you readers and asked you to please send in your own practical experiences in dealing with that particular problem. And, oh, what grand letters you did write! By your personal re-

Aunt Sal Suggests . . .

marks to me you have convinced me that you really enjoy "jumping into the act", so likely you'll get the chance to do so again throughout the coming year.

The last question that we subjected to a "public forum" treatment concerned the preserving of eggs. The many fine

letters that you readers sent me can be classified into these groups: (1) candling (or flash boil), (2) placing in lime water, (3) placing in waterglass solution, (4) greasing them. Now, I can't quote all the letters, so I have chosen from each group. Parts of these letters are placed below.

From Mrs. M. H. Scandina-via, Man., and from Mrs. S. Sexsmith, Alta., come similar directions for candling eggs. "Choose unfertilized, clean, fresh eggs; be sure there isn't a single crack. Place the eggs in a colander and place them into a larger pan of water in which the water is boiling. Leave for exactly ten seconds (a slow count of ten is the best timer). Lift out and pack them in a cool place in either an egg crate or in dry oats. I have used this method for fifteen years with fine results."

Mrs. H. T., St. Martin, Man., tells us of her way of putting down eggs in lime water. "Take about 2 quarts of slacked lime and add about 2 gallons of water. After the lime settles the water will be quite clear. Carefully place the eggs in this."

The majority of the readers put in a good word for the waterglass method. In reply to the lady who objected to the sliminess they all assure her that is nothing to worry about. It doesn't affect the goodness of the eggs at all. Mrs. C. (who asked to have her address withheld) states that she uses a 4-gallon oil can and it holds 10 to 12 dozen eggs. One can of waterglass will be needed for this number. Keep the waterglass solution about 2 inches over the eggs, also keep can well covered. If the waterglass should happen to freeze just leave the eggs until thawed out again and they will be all right.

Mrs. R. M., of Balcarres, Sask. (also her mother), substitute a 5-gallon crock for the oil can and this, too, holds 12 dozen. They have found that eggs kept well for almost a year and there have been times during cold spells when ice crystals formed on it. She adds that she does not use these eggs for table use and that the whites do not whip up into fluffy meringues, but for ordinary cooking purposes they like them very much.

Mrs. H. W., Shellbrook, Sask.,

is a great booster for eggs in waterglass. She tells us to use the recipe exactly that is printed on the waterglass container. She reminds us to give the eggs "the saucer test", that is, of course, break each one into a saucer to see if it looks and smells all right before adding to the cake batter. But Mrs. W. says she was able to whip the whites up nice and fluffy for her pet white fruit cake.

Mrs. A. W., of Stirling, Alta., has a few other pointers to add along this same line. She reminds us that the waterglass solution must be well cooled, likewise the eggs before they are introduced to each other. She keeps a close-fitting wooden cover on her crock and places a clean, white cloth over the crock before adding the lid. This not only keeps out dust but keeps the waterglass from evaporating. She very wittily comments that it is better to use several small crocks rather than "place all your eggs in one crock" so to speak. After taking an egg from the waterglass be sure to wash it off in cold water.

Although most of the "egg ladies" mentioned the keeping quality of the eggs in terms of months, Mrs. S. V., from Treesebank, Man., writes us that she has just tested eggs that were packed in September, 1953, and when broken into a saucer they would have been mistaken for fresh ones. She tells us carefully how she packed clean crates with several folds of paper. Then she used a soft cloth to anoint each egg with mineral oil (or liquid petroleum). After anointing, each egg was placed pointed end down into the filler. When full, the crate was covered with more folds of paper.

Mrs. A. B. C., of Magrath, Alta., (who I must say has been a frequent good neighbor towards this page) uses lard to rub her eggs in place of oil, and she swears by this method, while Mrs. P. F., from Consort, Alta., applies a thin coating of vaseline to preserve her eggs.

So there you are, friends, for a synopsis of the egg-keeping methods. I only wish that I could give credit to all those who did take the time and trouble to write in. I thank you all very, very much. And, again, I repeat this true statement: "I could never carry on with this department at all if I didn't feel that you are all my true friends and are all standing by ready to jump into the breach to give me a helping hand."

Bye bye for now . . . and every good wish.

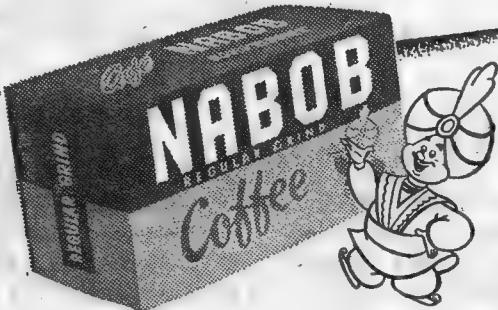
Aunt Sal.

If You're TIRED ALL THE TIME

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When preparing cauliflower, what do you do with the greens—ribs and leaves? Don't throw them away. Cook as you would spinach and serve as a vegetable—they are tasty and economical.

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Stews go great for winter meals

STEWS are perfect for winter dinners. Stew is an economical dish because the meat you use is cut from the less tender and lower-priced parts of the animal — that is, from the neck, the flank, the shank or the brisket. Stewing meat, like other less tender cuts, will become very tender if you give it long, slow, moist cooking. This cooking may be done in a heavy covered pot such as a Dutch oven, on top of the stove or in the oven. A stew can also be made very successfully in a pressure cooker.

There are two basic types of stew. If you want a brown stew then you dredge the meat with flour and brown it before covering with liquid. With a light stew the meat is not browned first.

Potatoes, carrots, and onions are probably the vegetables which are most often used in stews. However, there are other vegetables which you may add for a change. Cubed turnips impart a particularly tempting flavor to stew, or, you might like to try adding some chopped celery. Canned vegetables such as green peas or beans may be added just a few minutes before serving time. Fresh vegetables, when left in fairly large pieces, should be added about an hour before the stew is completely cooked. Care must be taken not to overcook the vegetables since overcooking causes them to lose their natural flavor, color, and shape.

A well-flavored and well-thickened gravy is extremely important in a stew. The type of cooking liquid used in the stew determines the character of the gravy. Water, tomato juice, and sieved canned tomatoes have all been found to be satisfactory cooking liquids. To some, thickening the gravy can be a problem. However, the home economists of the Consumer Section suggest that there are sure and easy ways to make it. They mention that with brown stew you really start making the gravy when you start making the stew. First of all, the meat is browned on all sides in melted fat which has been trimmed from it. Then the meat is coated with flour and the browning continued. The meat should be turned frequently to prevent sticking and burning. The flour, added in this way, will probably be sufficient to thicken the gravy. However, if the gravy is not thick enough, a few minutes before serving time make a very thin, smooth flour and water paste and add it gradually, stirring constantly. This, incidentally, is the way you make the gravy for light stew too.

To make the paste, put the cold water in a jar and sprinkle the flour on top. Then, cover the jar with its closely fitting lid and shake briskly until there are no lumps of flour left. That is all there is to it!

Seasonings are another point to be considered in preparing a stew. Here you can let your imagination take over. Season to your own taste and to your family's taste.

Brown Stews

3 pounds trimmed stewing meat, bone in (beef, veal or lamb)
OR 2 pounds trimmed stewing meat boneless

5 to 6 tablespoons flour
2 teaspoons salt
 $\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon pepper
 $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. savory (beef stew)
 $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. thyme (lamb or veal stew)
2 tbsps. chopped parsley
3 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 4 cups liquid (water, tomato juice or canned sieved tomatoes)

6 medium onions (whole)
12 medium carrots (cut in half lengthwise)
6 medium potatoes (cut in halves)
2 cups turnips cubed
2 cups green beans (1-20 oz. can) (optional)
2 cups peas (1-20 oz. can) (optional)

Wipe meat and cut in serving pieces. Brown well on all sides in fat cut from the meat. Drain off excess fat in lamb stew. Coat browned meat with flour and continue to brown. Add seasonings and liquid. Cover closely, simmer on top of stove. Beef Stew: bone in or boneless — 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 hours.
Veal or Lamb Stew: bone in — 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ hours.
boneless — 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours.
Allow 15 minutes longer for stew cooked in 325° F. oven.

Add vegetables 1 hour before end of cooking time. Add canned vegetables 10 minutes before end of cooking time. Six servings (5 to 6 ozs. meat bone in, 4 ozs. meat boneless).

Variations

Light Stew — Omit flouring and browning, thickening about 15 minutes before end of cooking time. Use 5 to 6 tablespoons flour, mix with enough cold water to make a smooth paste. Add a little cooking liquid from the stew to the paste, blend well and stir gradually into the stew.

Scotch Stew — To lamb stew add $\frac{1}{2}$ cup barley at beginning of cooking time and use only 2 to 3 tablespoons flour for coating meat. Add $\frac{1}{4}$ cup chopped celery.

Pressure-Cooked Stews — Use only 4 to 5 tablespoons flour for coating meat. Reduce liquid to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 2 cups. Add seasonings. Cook meat 8 to 10 minutes at 15 pounds pressure. Remove cooker from heat and cool slowly. Add prepared vegetables and cook 4 minutes longer at 15 pounds pressure. Cool slowly.

One Basic Dough makes Yummy dessert treats!

1. Cinnamon Square



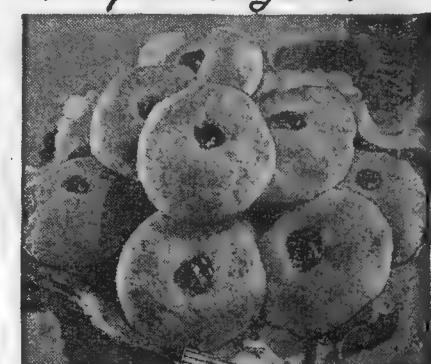
2. Apricot Figure Eight



3. Fruit Coil



4. Sugared Jelly Buns



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Basic COFFEE CAKE Dough

Scald

2 cups milk

Remove from heat and cool to lukewarm. In the meantime, measure into a large bowl

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup lukewarm water

2 teaspoons granulated sugar and stir until sugar is dissolved. Sprinkle with contents of

2 envelopes Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well. Stir in lukewarm milk and

4 well-beaten eggs

1 teaspoon vanilla

Sift together twice

7 cups once-sifted bread flour

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup granulated sugar

1 tablespoon salt

Stir about 6 cupfuls into the yeast mixture, beat until smooth and elastic.

Work in remaining dry ingredients and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups (about) once-sifted bread flour

Turn out on lightly-floured board and knead dough lightly until smooth and elastic. Place in a greased bowl and grease top of dough. Cover and set dough in a warm place, free from draught, and let rise until doubled in bulk. Turn out dough on lightly-floured board and knead lightly until smooth. Divide into 4 equal portions and finish as follows:

1. CINNAMON SQUARE

Combine $\frac{1}{4}$ cup granulated sugar and 1 tsp. cinnamon; sprinkle on board. Place one portion of dough on sugar mixture and roll into a 12-inch square; fold dough from back to front, then from left to right; repeat this rolling and folding twice, using a little flour on the board, if necessary; seal edges. Place in greased 8-inch square pan; press out to edges. Grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled. Cream 2 tbsps. butter or margarine, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup granulated sugar and $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. cinnamon; mix in $\frac{1}{4}$ cup broken walnuts and 1 tbsp. milk. Spread over risen dough. Bake at 350°, 30 to 35 mins.

2. APRICOT FIGURE EIGHT

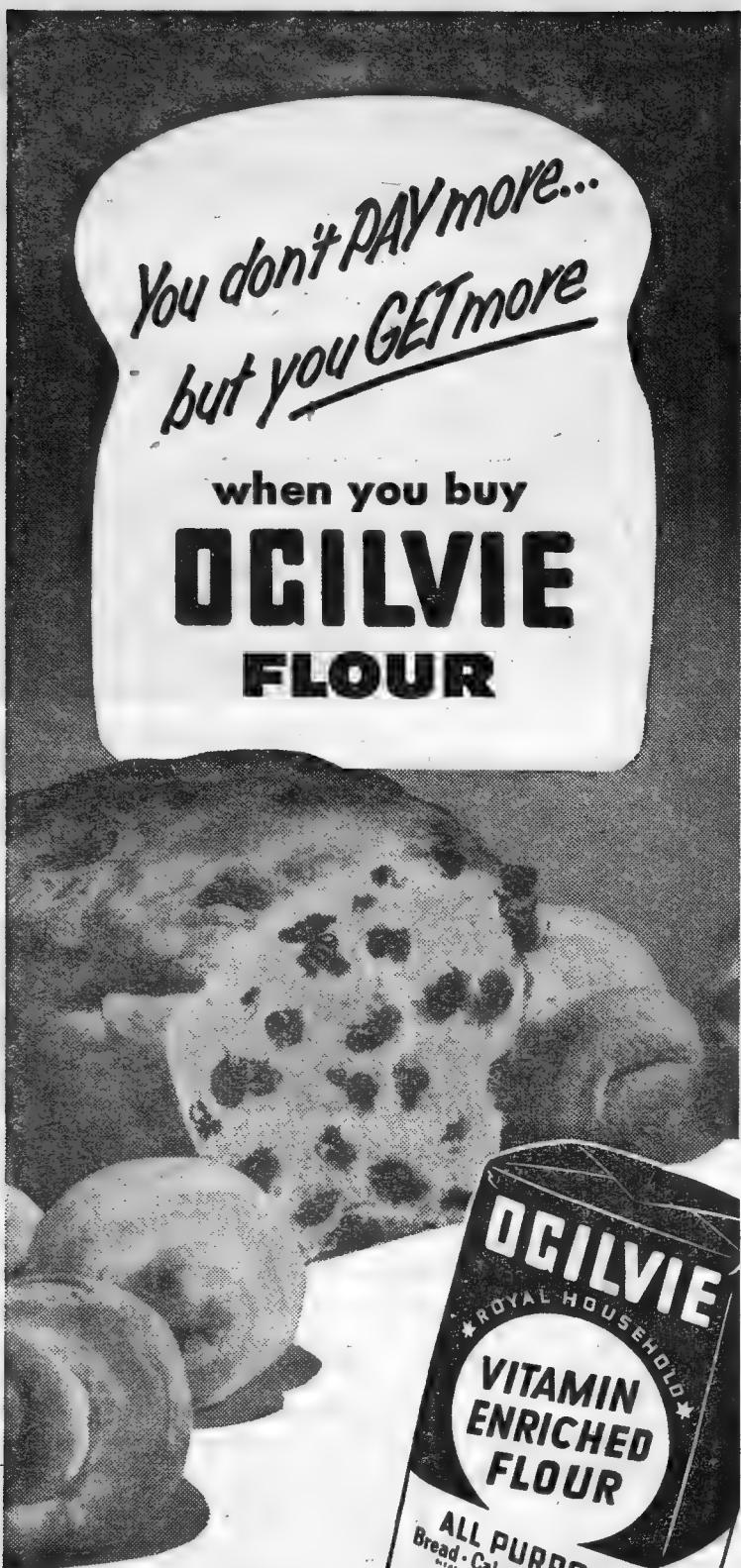
Combine $\frac{1}{4}$ cup brown sugar, 1 tbsp. flour, $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. mace and $\frac{1}{4}$ cup finely-chopped nuts. Roll out one portion of dough into a rectangle about 22 by 6 inches. Spread with 2 tbsps. soft butter or margarine; sprinkle with nut mixture. Fold dough lengthwise into 3 layers. Twist dough from end to end; form into figure 8 on greased pan. Grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled. Bake at 350°, about 30 mins. Fill crevices of hot figure 8 with thick apricot jam; spread other surfaces with white icing; sprinkle with nuts.

3. FRUIT COIL

Knead into one portion of dough, 2 tbsps. grated orange rind, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup raisins, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup chopped nuts and $\frac{1}{4}$ cup well-drained cut-up red and green maraschino cherries. Roll out dough, using the hands, into a rope about 30 inches long. Beginning in the centre of a greased deep 8-inch round pan, swirl rope loosely around and around to edge of pan. Brush with 2 tbsps. melted butter or margarine; sprinkle with mixture of $\frac{1}{4}$ cup granulated sugar and 1 tsp. cinnamon. Cover and let rise until doubled. Bake at 350°, 35 to 40 mins.

4. SUGARED JELLY BUNS

Cut one portion of dough into 12 equal-sized pieces. Shape each piece into a smooth round ball; roll in melted butter or margarine, then in granulated sugar. Place, well apart, on greased pan; flatten slightly. Cover and let rise until doubled. Form an indentation in the top of each bun by twisting the handle of a knife in the top; fill with jelly. Cover and let rise 15 mins. longer. Bake at 350°, 15 to 18 mins.



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Let's Ask Aunt Sal . . .

HOW often I am truly amazed that so many women living hundreds of miles apart will think of the same thing at the same time. Maybe it just goes to show that we are all "sisters under the skin" and no matter what our home addresses may be we have pretty much the same problems and interests. Many of the following questions came to me from several different women so if you don't see your initials below, I'm sure you'll recognize your particular problems.

Q.: I wish to procure gelatine that is not made of portions of the pig. — (Mrs. B. W.) This is a repeat question for two readers have sent in help with this question.

A.: (A lady who signs herself "A Silent Reader", tells us this): "The Knox Company has a picture of a calf on the box and in a letter they wrote me on request, they assure me that their product is made only of beef bones."

Q.: Where can I procure Irish moss?

A.: I talked with several druggists and they all said they could get this for a customer on order, but none of them liked keeping it in stock any more. First, because there is so little demand for it; second, because it doesn't keep well. So I refer you back to our first question which is a modern substitute for Irish moss.

Q.: How can one make jelly by using milk instead of water? — (Mrs. E. E., R.R. 2, Kelowna, B.C.)

A.: I believe that Mrs. E. means jelly that is placed in jars. I have not been able to find any recipes for this, but I have found several recipes for using milk in jelly that is to be used right away.

Jellied Milk (also called Baked Milk), sent in by Mrs. R. H., Ochre River, Manitoba, and it simply states: "Place milk in a jar, cover with paper and bake in a moderate oven until like thick cream, especially good for invalids."

Q.: Could you tell me where I could get information on converting a treadle sewing machine into a spinning wheel? — (Mrs. M. E., Langley Prairie, B.C.)

A.: I inquired of all the ma-

chinery men I knew and when I called the sewing machine office one of the head men happened to be there that day and really they all acted as if I had "gone off my rocker", they declared it couldn't be done. Have any of you readers ever heard of this conversion?

Q.: Where could I get a bread mixer about four-loaf size? The stores where I deal tell me they are not made any more. — (L. W., Clearwater Bay, Ont.)

A.: They are now called "dough blenders". The Hobart Mfg. Co. make them though I doubt you can get them in as small a size as you want. However, if you write to this address I'm sure they can help you, Home Service Division, Moffat's Ltd., Toronto, Ontario.

Q.: What is laundry chlorox? I read that it could be used to take ink from cards so they could be used for children's classes. — (Mrs. E. H., Stoughton, Sask.)

A.: I think they mean any chlorine solution that is used in the laundry. They are sold as bleaches under many trade names. Might I suggest that a good remedy for removing ink from cards is hydrogen peroxide. Take a soft, small cloth and dip in the peroxide and wring out and rub over ink marks.

Q.: Could you give me the recipe for the Icelandic cake called Vena Torte? — (Mrs. H. T., St. Martin, Man.)

A.: It seemed to me that I had this somewhere but cannot find it at present. Here is a simpler one of this variety, that is, it is in the "tote class" but is simply named:

Jelly Meringue Squares

Mix together 3 tbsps. soft butter, 1/3 cup white sugar, 1/2 tsp. vanilla and 2 egg yolks. Sift these dry ingredients several times. 1 cup all-purpose flour, 1/2 tsp. baking powder, 1/2 tsp. salt. Cream together until smooth. Press mixture firmly into greased and floured 8-inch pan. Spread jelly (or jam all over it). Beat egg whites until stiff and add 4 tbsps. sugar. Fold in 1/3 cup chopped nuts. Spread this on cake. Bake in moderate oven, 325° F. for 40 minutes. Cut in squares when almost cool.

The Dishpan Philosopher

WELL, New Years come and Old Years go, and those who live them never know whether a year wrought good or ill. Not till the years ahead fulfil what one year planned can man discern the lesson he was meant to learn. In 1954 the seed of world-wide peace, for which we plead, may have been sown and well may thrive, although in 1955 we may not see a greening shoot to promise us the ripened fruit. But, anyway, we've turned a page on this new year in this new age, hoping with usual New Year's zeal for happy turns of fortune's wheel.

On seeing a new year begin we all seem fired with will to win whatever battles lie ahead — so by New Years is courage fed. And fortune's frowns are really few that courage will not see us through.

What's for dinner?

By LOUISE PRICE BELL

EVERY housewife has days when she thinks she is at the end of her rope so far as planning dinner. So when you reach that state, try either this beef or pork meal and see if it isn't worth a second try! Your family will tell you it is, be sure of that, no matter which recipe you use.

The Beef Stew is different from the run-of-the-mill stew because the ginger snaps, and serving it in a noodle ring makes it seem pretty special, and company-looking. For the noodle ring, just add grated cheese to cooked noodles, pack in well-greased ring mold and let stand about ten minutes before unmolding. Here's how to make the stew:

New Style Beef Stew

- 2 lbs. beef stew meat, cut into two-inch pieces
- 2 medium onions
- 3 tbsps. lard
- 3 cups of hot water
- 3 teaspoons salt
- 1/4 tsp. black pepper
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/4 cup vinegar
- 1 medium-sized red cabbage
- 1/2 cup brown ginger snaps

Brown beef and sliced onions in heavy skillet or Dutch oven, in the hot lard, then add water, pepper, bay leaf, cover tightly and cook slowly for 1 1/2 hours. Add vinegar and place cabbage wedges atop the meat, cover and cook 45 minutes longer. Meanwhile, soak ginger snaps in 1/4 cup warm water. Remove cabbage and meat to hot platter, add ginger snaps to liquid and bring to a boil, stirring to make a smooth gravy. Add meat to gravy, reheat, and serve in a cheese noodle ring, or on a bed of plain boiled noodles. Surround with red cabbage wedges. (Stew may be made without cabbage, if desired.)

Pork and Vegetable Pie

- 1 1/2 lbs. pork shoulder—cut into one-inch cubes
- 1/2 cup sliced onions
- 2 cups water, or bouillon, or meat stock on hand
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 1 cup sliced carrots
- 1 cup sliced celery
- 1 cup cooked green beans or peas
- 2 tbsps. Worcester sauce
- Baking powder biscuit dough

Fry meat in heavy saucepan, remove solid pieces and brown onions in the fat, then add water or bouillon, salt, pepper. Cook 45 minutes, then add carrots and celery and cook 15 minutes. Thicken liquid with 2 tbsps. flour mixed to a paste with a little water. Add beans (or peas) with Worcestershire sauce, pour into 1/2 quart casserole and top with baking powder biscuit dough, either as a crust or cut into fancy shapes. Bake at 450° F. for 20 minutes when biscuits or crust will be brown.

A good beef stew is a dish for any company.

Cranberry Loaf

- 3/4 cup finely ground toast crumbs
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. nutmeg
- 1/4 tsp. allspice
- 1/4 tsp. cloves
- 1/4 tsp. ginger
- 3 tbsps. melted butter
- 2 cups of jellied cranberry sauce
- 1/2 cup whipping cream
- 1 three-ounce package of cream cheese

Mix first seven ingredients together, then work in the melted butter. Press mixture evenly in a shallow loaf pan and chill for an hour or two. Crush the jellied cranberry sauce with a fork, then spread over the toast-crust. Whip the cream and add softened cream cheese to it, then spread on cranberry mixture and chill for an hour. (Cheese may be omitted, if desired.)

"Eisenhower Stew"

"EISENHOWER Stew", prepared from President Eisenhower's famous recipe, was the food feature at a recent dinner at Denver, Colorado, at which the President and some 86 guests, including 40 newspaper men, were present. The President personally supervised the making of the beef stew and guests agreed that the dish possessed superior quality.

The President's recipe was based on servings for 60 people. With enquiries from a number of correspondents who wished to prepare the stew on a family scale, the Council of Canadian Beef Producers (Western Section), asked the Home Service Department of the Canadian Western Natural Gas Company to adopt the recipe to family proportions with the following result:

- 4 pounds beef round
- 1 pound small potatoes
- 8 carrots—medium size
- 2 medium onions
- 4 fresh tomatoes
- 1/2 quarts beef stock made from soup bone or consomme or tomato broth
- 1 teaspoon pepper
- Dash of Accent
- Thyme, Bay leaves and Garlic
- 4 tablespoons fat.

Cut beef into one-inch cubes, roll in flour, salt and pepper. Melt fat in kettle, add meat and brown. Add boiling stock and seasoning. Cover kettle and simmer for two hours or until beef is tender. Add vegetables and cook one-half hour longer.

Beef stew is usually made from the cheaper cuts and thus it has economy as well as palatability and high food value in its favor. These low-priced cuts of the beef carcass possess the same high nutritional qualities as the more fashionable steaks and roasts and may even surpass them in flavor.

A good beef stew is a dish for any company.



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GINGER-CREAM DEVIL'S FOOD

- 1/2 cup cocoa
- 1 1/2 cups fine granulated sugar
- 1 1/3 cups milk
- 2 cups sifted pastry flour
- or 1 3/4 cups sifted all-purpose flour
- 3 tbsps. Magic Baking Powder
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 9 tbsps. butter or margarine
- 2 eggs, well beaten
- 1 1/2 tbsps. vanilla

Grease two 8-inch round layer-cake pans and line bottoms with greased paper. Preheat oven to 350° (moderate). Combine cocoa and 1/4 cup of the sugar in a saucepan; gradually blend in 2/3 cup of the milk; bring to the boil, stirring until sugar dissolves; cool thoroughly. Sift flour, Magic Baking Powder, baking soda and salt together three times. Cream butter or margarine; gradually blend in remaining 3/4 cup sugar. Add well-beaten eggs part at a time, beating well after each addition. Stir in cold chocolate mixture. Combine remaining 1/2 cup milk and vanilla. Add flour mixture to creamed mixture about a quarter at a time, alter-

nating with three additions of milk and vanilla and combining lightly after each addition. Turn into prepared pans. Bake in preheated oven 40 to 45 minutes. Cover one layer of cold cake with the following Ginger-Cream Filling; let stand about 1/2 hour then cover with second cake. When filling is set, top cake (or cover all over) with whipped cream; sprinkle with toasted sliced almonds and chopped ginger and serve immediately. Or cake may be topped with any desired frosting.

GINGER-CREAM FILLING: Scald 1 1/2 cups milk and 2 tbsps. cut-up preserved or candied ginger in double boiler. Combine 1/4 cup granulated sugar, 2 1/2 tbsps. corn starch and 1/4 tsp. salt; slowly stir in milk mixture. Pour back into pan and cook over boiling water, stirring constantly, until smoothly thickened; cover and cook, stirring occasionally, until no raw flavor of starch remains—about 7 minutes longer. Slowly stir hot mixture into 1 slightly-beaten egg; return to double boiler and cook over hot water, stirring constantly, for 1 minute. Remove from heat; gradually stir in 1 tbsp. butter or margarine and 1/4 tsp. vanilla. Cool this filling thoroughly before spreading on cake.

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JANUARY is named after Janus, the ancient Latin god with two faces, each looking opposite ways. He was the god of doors, because every door looks both ways, and he was the dedicated deity of a fire temple in Rome that was open in time of war and closed during peace. Later on January was known to the Saxons as the wolf-month.

Garden, field, prairie are now desolate with the apparent death of December, but there is no dark, dreary winter in the soul of the nature-lover. He thinks with gratitude of all the great simple things abounding in the world of out-doors, where contentment meets him and takes him tenderly by the hand. His inward ear listens to the sweetly mystic notes of Pan which even the harsh, discordant clamor of an ugly and ruthless reality can never drown.

Look at the low-hung, goose-grey sky, heavy with snow. Sure enough the first flake falls, so intricate in design, so chaste in texture. It melts on my mitt and is gone. A miracle, truly,

for how can the super-skill of science ever design a snowflake? Several snowfalls have spread a thick icing over the wide, silent fields away from road traffic and human habitation. But close inspection will show that the surface is not smooth and unbroken. Here are tracks woven and interwoven over the white-top like a design for living in the winter outdoors. There are little three-toed marks like feather-stitch embroidery, dog foot-prints, and signs of the porcupine show where it has swept its tail as if the prickly creature had swished a broom to wipe out all trace of its travels. Weasels, coyotes, squirrels have all left their marks to tell the story of their winter business. Like phantoms of the night the little furred and feathered creatures have come and gone, silently and unseen, but the newly-fallen snow always records their visits in the script of padmarks and trail as clearly as any scientific fingerprints. No bird or beast can pass over the all-revealing snow without betraying how and where it journeyed.

The hibernators, of course, do not record their diaries in the snow. They would not have much to write about anyhow. The wood-chuck or groundhog (according to where you live) will snooze away soundly till Groundhog Day, or to be ecclesiastical, Candlemas Day, on Feb. 2nd. That is, perhaps. The hibernators have probably found the solution to easy living in the long, prairie winter. They simply turn it into the Land of Nod, emulating Rip Van Winkle.

A big New Year's Wish rides right through the coming year, a wish for each one of its 365 days, that they may be peaceful and prosperous. Too much to hope for? They say, and maybe it is true that if you wish your wishes hard enough, so it will be. Then here's to wishing!

Cowper's words are very fitting for the close of a cold January day:

"The cups
That cheer but not inebriate,
wait on each,
So let us welcome peaceful
evening in."

New formula for overshoes gives warmth minus weight

THE day is near at hand when bulkiness in winter footwear will be as outmoded as Victorian warming pans, according to the experts.

For the months of sludge and snow ahead they have hit on several new formulae for foot warmth minus weight. Being used on a large scale in overshoes for the first time this

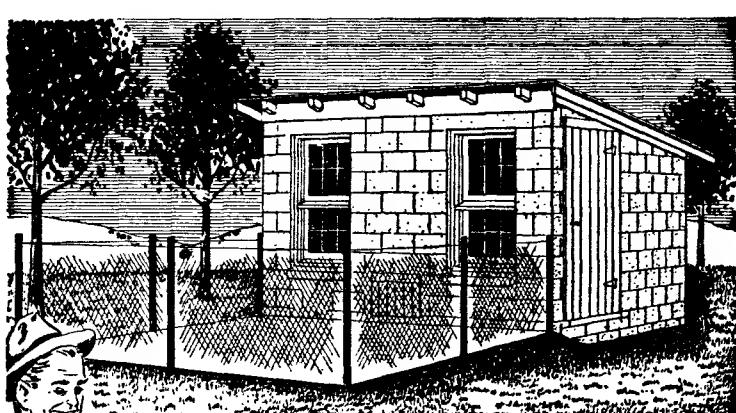
year are light-weight, specially insulated linings calculated to keep your feet warm as coffee in a thermos.

In some cases, the "new look" in linings consists of a thin metallic interlining and a light nylon outer shell. In others, it is plastic, blown up by a special process to form little, sealed-off pockets and inserted between layers of rubber. But the net result, manufacturers claim, is that milady will no longer have that clog-footed feeling as she trudges off on her winter outings. Moreover, with the new lining, she will be able to face that long winter's traffic wait on icy street corners without feeling an attack of frost-bite coming on, since it enables an overshoe to retain heat for a longer period of time.

Another asset of the lining is that its lightness should eventually result in more versatility in overshoe styling. Also now on the market is a skid-resistant, synthetic rubber sole designed to cut down on the hazards of slippery pavements. Although smooth surfaced, its sponginess gives it an added gripping quality which makes for greater walking confidence.

For the woman who likes to combine glamor with warmth and believes it is high time there was a change in the conventional overshoe, there is an entirely new snow-boot in suede and leather combinations. Made in Canada, but based on an Italian design, it sports a wedge heel with laced front and comes in a variety of high shades as well as the usual sombre colors.

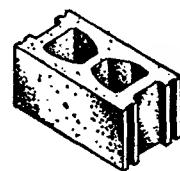
Country Diary



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A Little Wheat— A Little Chaff

By IVAN HELMER

Advice to new housewives: If at first you don't succeed, fry, fry again.

* * *

THE ATOM BOMB, THE HYDROGEN BOMB AND BUM WEATHER?

From a talk by the director of British Meteorological office: "It is unnecessary to look for artificial causes of bad weather. In 1903, the worst year on record there were no atom bombs. many will remember how, in the twenties, broadcasting was blamed for both rain and drought — and long before that, the railways were accused of making rain by blowing steam into the air."

And from a trade magazine, Zinc:

"A curious thing happened in the United States in 1816. It was called the year without a summer. Seed failed to grow, fruits did not ripen, birds froze in their nests, and murky spots appeared on the sun. Religious leaders said it was punishment for the sins of a wicked world. Politicians blamed the party in power—President Madison's government."

* * *

The people who used to drive horses never got anywhere, but neither did their ulcers.

* * *

Football teams operate on the same philosophy as farmers; if things go sour this year there is always next year. Probably even Montreal will field a team again in 1955.

* * *

The January clearance sale is the deal where many a thrifty housewife does a nice stroke of business for the family budget. As an example of the savings possible a Seattle furrier is willing to slough off a \$25,000.00 mink coat for only \$19,995.

* * *

Funny that ducks and geese have sense enough to go South, but the hunters don't even have sense enough to stay in out of the wet and cold.

* * *

We have been hearing about an after-dinner speaker who droned on and on and on with his speech. A gent at the head table eventually gave up the unequal struggle against sleep and dozed off. The chairman, next him (probably a cousin of the speaker) rapped the offender heartily on the head with his gavel. The guy opened one eye slightly and groaned: "Hit me again — I can still hear him!"

* * *

Never turn your back on a fast buck — not out in a goat pasture anyway.

* * *

No wonder the world is in a mess; morals as elastic as a pre-war sling-shot, juvenile delinquency and hooliganism at its highest point, and integrity and solvency at its lowest. With most people working 40 hours a week (and many less) there is still 128 hours left each week for them to get into all kinds of hellery.

* * *

Orson Welles has tamed down a lot since he used to scare half of North America half to death with too-realistic radio productions. His latest desire is quite modest. What he would like to do is, "a simple UNDRAMATIC film about the end of the world." Don't know how he will do it, but if he doesn't hurry up he may be scooped. The scientists may beat him to it.

An Egyptian Dr. claims to have developed a secret formula for reducing age. He reports that it has taken 17 years off his age. What's more he can quote figures to prove it. According to the records he is 51; but he feels only 34. Furthermore, his hair which was tattle-tale grey is now said to be black.

A lot of people would be happy as a pig in a mud-bath if they could get hold of a formula whereby they could even drop 17 pounds. And a lot of males would be in seventh heaven if they could just get some hair back on the drought-stricken top-quarter. They would settle for a poor crop at that, and any color—even Neapolitan.

* * *

What's new about a one-way street — aren't we all on one?

* * *

Guest. In Braintree, Mass., police stepped up the search for the parents of lost, three-year-old William Kellaway, after a two-hour sojourn at the station house during which William 1) dumped files, 2) decommissioned the Teletype, 3) disrupted the telephone system, 4) beaned a lieutenant with a flashlight.

* * *

Psychic Bid. In Du Quoin, Ill., Hardware Dealer Leo Hindman had a sign stenciled on his safe, "Positively not locked. No money in safe. Turn handle and open," was robbed of \$700 when burglars followed instructions.

* * *

Room Service. In East Lansing, Mich., Warren Wood, 33, was charged with drunken driving after his car went out of control, left the highway, crossed a lawn, crashed into a house, bounced through the living room and came to rest in the bedroom two feet from where Mrs. A. E. Ellesworth and her daughter Mary were sleeping.

* * *



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for your
“nest egg”**

•

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Pains in BACK, HIPS, LEGS
Tiredness, LOSS OF VIGOR

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from Edmonton, and other necessary labor is hired locally.

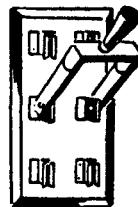
During 1953, the total expenditure for buildings and maintenance by the Department totalled \$10,467,034. Of this sum, about 71 per cent was for construction, 23 per cent for maintenance, and six per cent for furnishings and equipment.

Over the years from 1948 to 1953, the amount expended on construction was \$32,708,000, for maintenance \$11,286,000, with \$3,222,578 spent on furnishings and equipment. The total for the six years was \$47,21,490.

These expenditures provided and equipped many public buildings for which an urgent need had long been apparent, and included Provincial Buildings at seven Alberta centers Engineering Building, Rutherford Library and Students' Union Building at the University of Alberta; the Fairview School of Agriculture; Aberhart Memorial Sanitorium; Alberta Office Building, Calgary; Civil Defence Building, Edmonton; Cancer Clinic, Cerebral Palsy Clinic, New Land Titles' Building and the Administration Building also located in Edmonton.



Under the Maintenance Branch of the Department comes a large number of carpenters, electricians, plumbers, caretakers and groundsmen. The Carpenter Shop turns out about \$10,000 worth of furniture for government offices each month. The Paint Shop maintains a staff of 24 persons, while about 12 men are employed in the metal shop of the Department. Fourteen plumbers are responsible for the maintenance of plumbing and heating in Government buildings, and about 20 electricians, apprentices and helpers are required to carry out wiring on new construction as well as to maintain and repair wiring in existing offices.



**GOVERNMENT BUSINESS
YOUR BUSINESS**

The Department of Public Works employs about 842 people for the construction and maintenance of Alberta Government Buildings scattered throughout the Province. Upon them falls the responsibility of providing public buildings and giving these buildings the care they require.



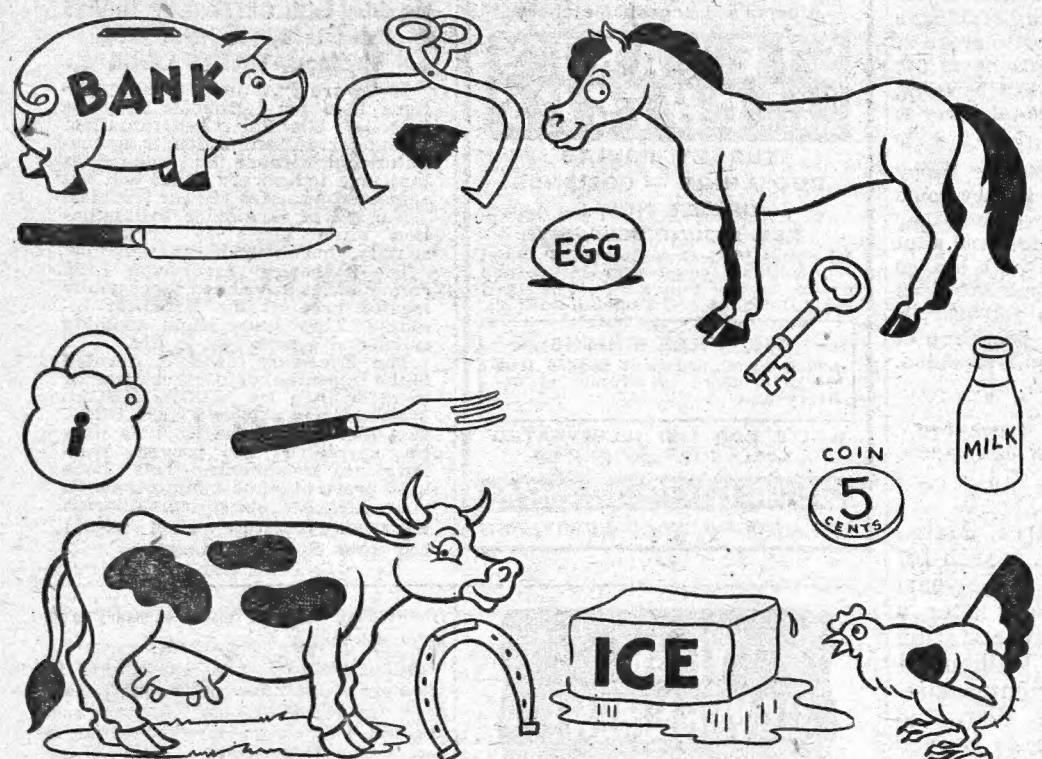
GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

FUNLAND

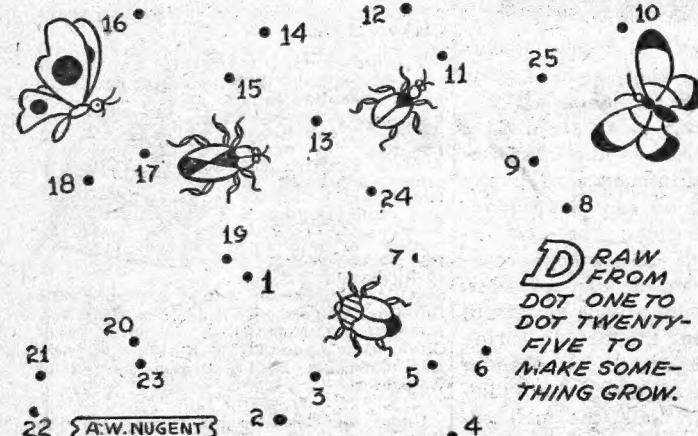
THE FAMILY ENTERTAINER

TOTS' TEST

ASK THE CHILD TO DRAW A PENCIL LINE TO CONNECT EACH PAIR OF THINGS THAT BELONG TOGETHER.

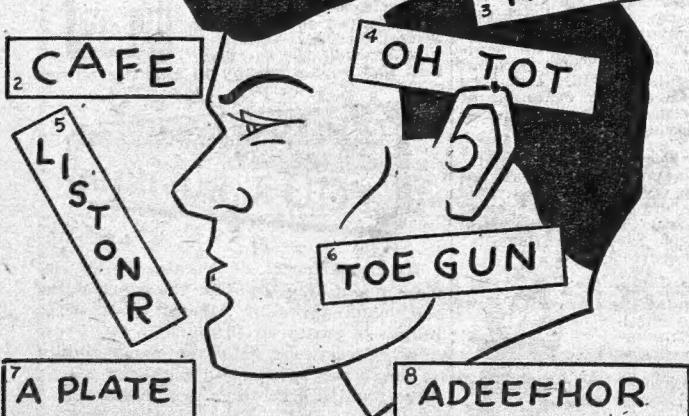


SOLUTION: COIN AND PIGGY BANK, KNIFE AND FORK, LOCK AND KEY, COW AND MILK, HORSE AND HORSESHOE, ICE AND TONGS, HEN AND EGG.



22 3 A.W.NUGENT

HEAD WORK. TRY TO UNSCRAMBLE EACH GROUP OF LETTERS TO SPELL THE NAMES OF 8 PARTS OF THE HUMAN HEAD.



ANSWER: 1. BRAIN 2. FACE 3. NERVE 4. TOOTH 5. PLATE 6. TONGUE 7. PALATE 8. FOREHEAD.

BY A.W.NUGENT
THE WORLD'S LEADING PUZZLEMAKER

LITTLE ARTISTS:

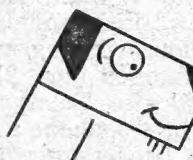
USE THIS BOX TO DRAW THIS BOXER.



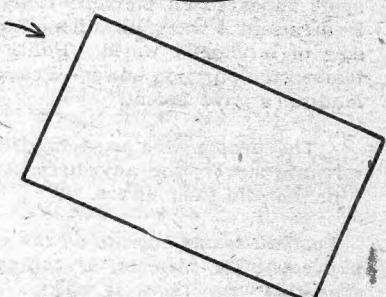
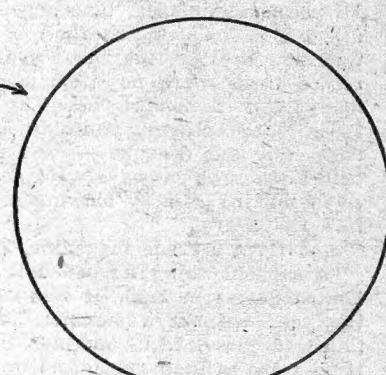
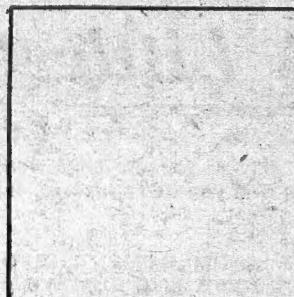
START WITH THIS CIRCLE TO DRAW THIS BEAGLE.



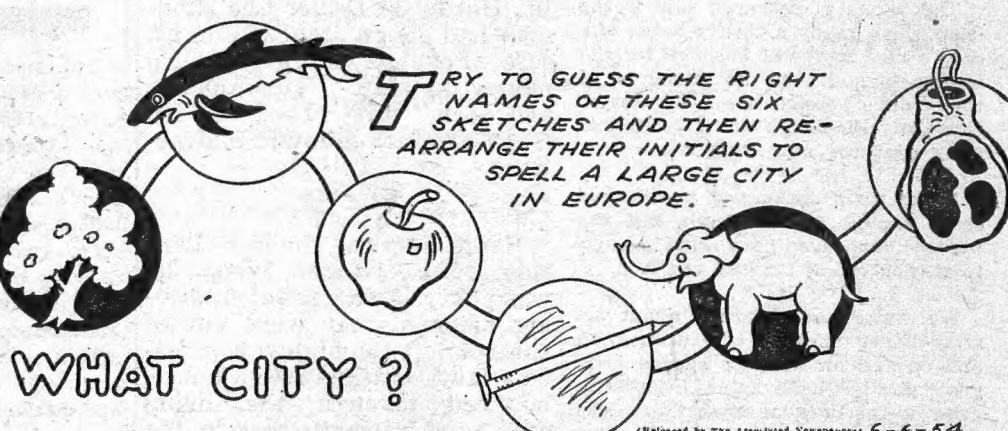
ADD LINES TO THIS OBLONG TO DRAW THIS TERRIER.



(Released by The Associated Newspapers)



6-6-54

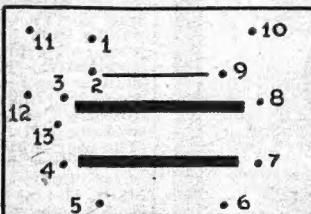


TRY TO GUESS THE RIGHT NAMES OF THESE SIX SKETCHES AND THEN RE-ARRANGE THEIR INITIALS TO SPELL A LARGE CITY IN EUROPE.

(Released by The Associated Newspapers) 6-6-54

THE INITIALS OF APPLE, TREE, HAM, ELEPHANT, MAIL AND SHARK WILL SPELL ATHENS.

CONNECT THE DOTS LITTLE TOTS.



CAN YOU FINISH THE LOWER HALVES OF THESE 4 INCOMPLETE LETTERS TO SPELL AN ANIMAL?

HARE IS CORRECT.

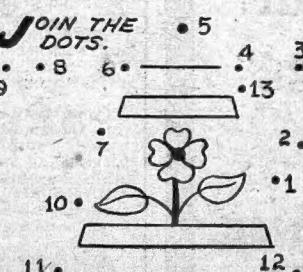
U A D E

2 ROWS OF 40

4			6
5		7	
	8		
9		10	11
10	11		12

WRITE THE EIGHT GIVEN NUMBERS IN THE EMPTY BOXES TO GET A TOTAL OF 40 IN EACH OF THE TWO ROWS.

THE 8 IS IN THE CORRECT POSITION.



SOLUTION: ACROSS: 5, 11, 8, 9, 7, DOWN: 4, 10, 8, 12, 6.



Text-book racket

To the Editor:

SAY, how about an editorial on the school text book set-up. One of my girls handed me a large bill last evening for new text books. Her sister was in the same grade last year, so I said, "Why can't you use Ruth's books?" I was informed that, though the other books were in first-class condition, new texts were being used again this year. She said the French teacher was disgusted because the new text was not nearly as good as the old.

A new literature had to be bought at \$3.75, and there were several others. I can understand that in some subjects changes every few years might be necessary, but the laws of maths., grammar, ele. chemistry and others do not change and this business of new books every year for a large family looks like a racket that works a real hardship and needs correction.

P. T. McKee.

Highbridge, Alta.

What about religion?

To the Editor:

THREE cheers! For we have learned what will raise the moral standard of humanity — its ethics. Also what can lift up our spirits — tis poetry. At least that's what an author says under the title of "I'd take the Cyrano's Creed" in October issue of this paper. And what about religion (presumably Christian)? He brushes it aside by stating "religions are mostly concerned with the hereafter".

What I like to ask is: Cannot a swindler and an adulterer have excellent ethics? Or, who has not read poetry containing words not necessary free from moral defilement or with questionable motives and themes? And did many poets die to prove their teaching as Christ died for his? And does the commandment: "Love your God above all and your neighbor as yourself," mean hereafter?

Let's consider these issues and put first things first.

John Gereluk, a layman.
Vegreville, Alta.

Russians and Russians

To the Editor:

I have read many of your very timely editorials with much interest and enthusiasm, but your recent article on "De-

mocracy Can't Be Enforced," has baffled me somewhat.

You state "how do we proceed with the problem of converting 200,000,000 Russians to democracy?" My first question is, how do you arrive at this astronomical figure of Russians? Perhaps you mean 200,000,000 Europeans under Russian iron heel, if I may coin this phrase, that I believe would be correct. Do you realize that upward of forty million of the above figure consists of Ukrainians, while others are Slovaks, Poles, etc., who have practised democratic way of life in some measure long before Stalin was ushered into this world? These people today would rejoice if they could be freed from Russian dictatorship. What about these refugees that arrived lately in Canada, don't they accept and understand the democratic way of life? And how about millions of others left behind the iron curtain. Yes, I am quite sure what democracy means to them. (Statistically speaking there are approximately 80 million Russians.)

Harry L. Pshyk.

Innisfree, Alta.

(Our reference was to population of U.S.S.R., not to racial Russians.—The Editor.)

Sour pickle response

To the Editor:

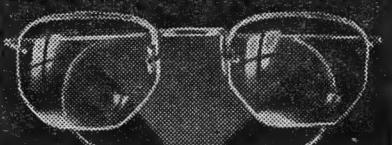
IN the October issue you make a scurrilous attack on "Aunt Sal" for daring to give a recipe for sweet dill pickles. Well! Well! Sir, when did you become qualified to dictate to "Aunt Sal"! My advice to you is to stick to your Editorials and leave "Aunt Sal" alone — she's doing all right.

With righteous anger.

W. R. Archibald.

POEMS WANTED for musical setting. Send poem for immediate consideration and **FREE Rhyming Dictionary**. RICHARD BROTHERS, 18 Woods Building, Chicago.

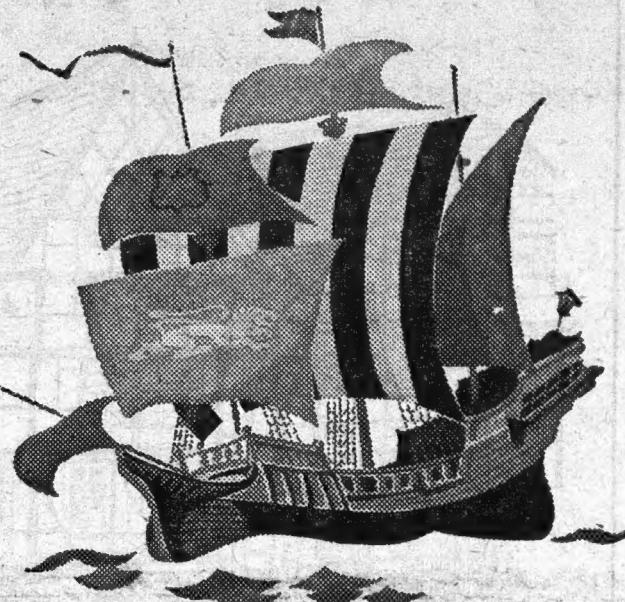
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After flying from Paris to open the exhibition
the Commander-in-Chief of Allied Land Forces
in Europe takes the honour guard salute.

A glimpse of home...

FOR THE CANADIAN ARMY OVERSEAS

This sketch shows the ceremony which attended the visit of the Seagram Collection of Paintings, "Cities of Canada," to our Armed Forces stationed in Europe.

This visit to Canada's First Infantry Brigade stationed in Soest, West Germany, was the 16th exhibition on the Collection's year-long 30,000-mile international tour.

Everywhere it was shown, throughout Latin America and Europe, the Seagram Collection received an enthusiastic welcome. But the reception it was given by our troops was among the warmest of all, for here were more than paintings: here were familiar and well-beloved scenes, here were native cities that awakened cherished memories . . . here was a glimpse of home for those away from home.

The House of Seagram



INTERNATIONAL TOUR: OTTAWA, SAN JUAN, HAVANA, MEXICO CITY, CARACAS, RIO DE JANEIRO, SAO PAULO, BUENOS AIRES, MONTEVIDEO, ROME, LONDON, PARIS, GENEVA, STOCKHOLM, THE HAGUE, MADRID, AND A VISIT TO THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES IN SOEST, WEST GERMANY.

CURRENT CANADIAN TOUR: MONTREAL, CHARLOTTETOWN, HALIFAX, ST. JOHN'S, SAINT JOHN, SHERBROOKE, TROIS-RIVIÈRES, TORONTO, QUEBEC, LONDON, WINNIPEG, EDMONTON, VANCOUVER, VICTORIA, CALGARY, PORT ARTHUR—FORT WILLIAM, SUDBURY, SARNIA, WINDSOR, HAMILTON, KINGSTON, REGINA, SASKATOON, SHAWINIGAN FALLS, HULL.

The ex-



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the motoramic Chevrolet

Like most good ideas, this one is pretty simple.

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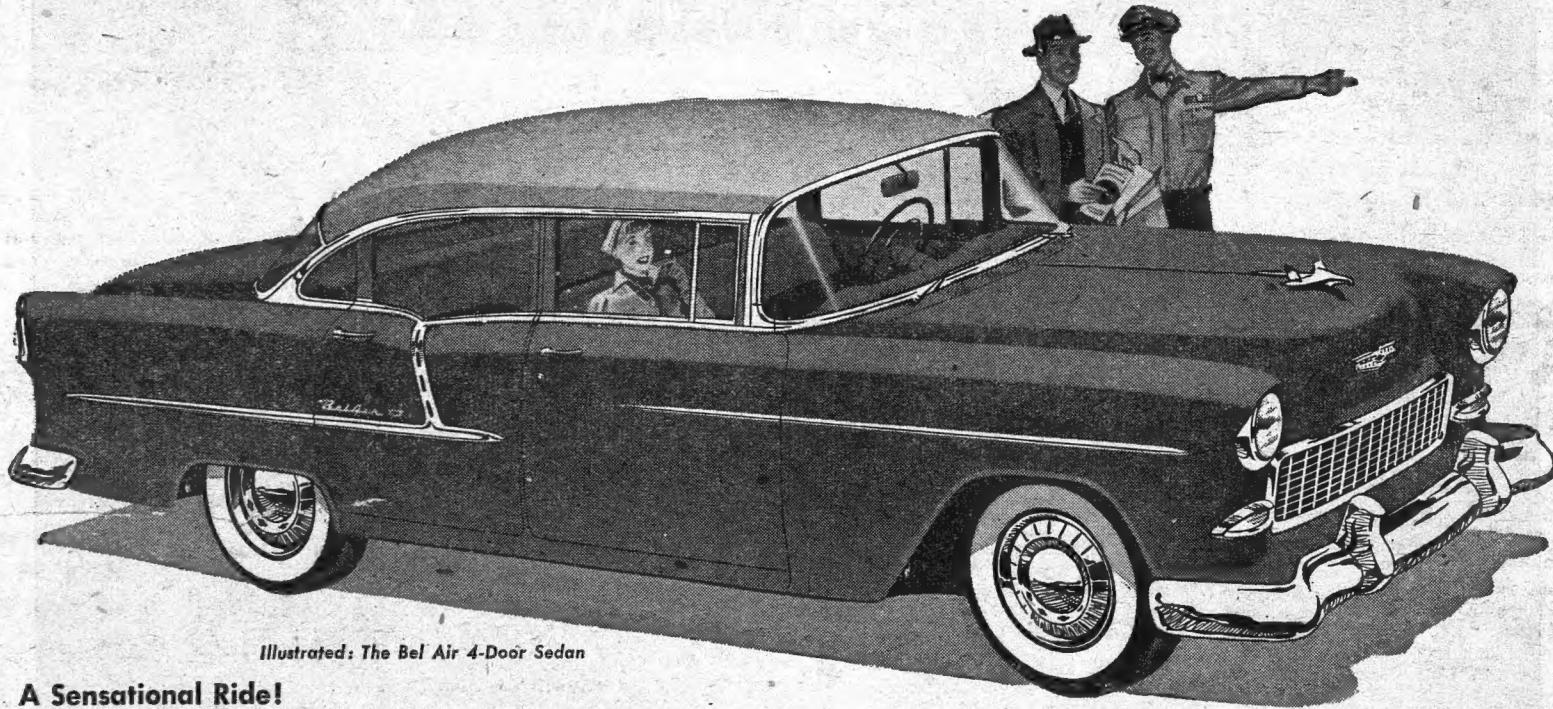
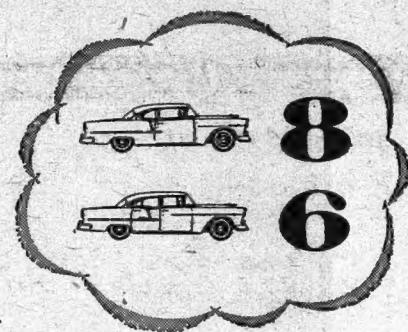
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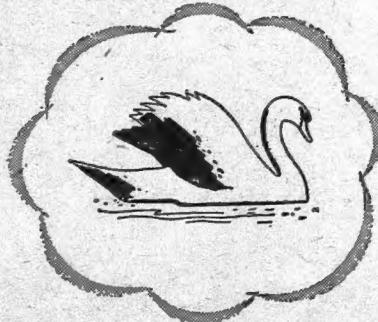
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Illustrated: The Bel Air 4-Door Sedan

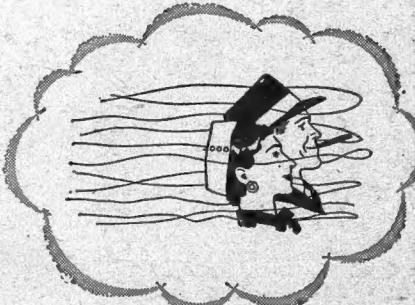
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Every Luxury Option

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motoramic



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